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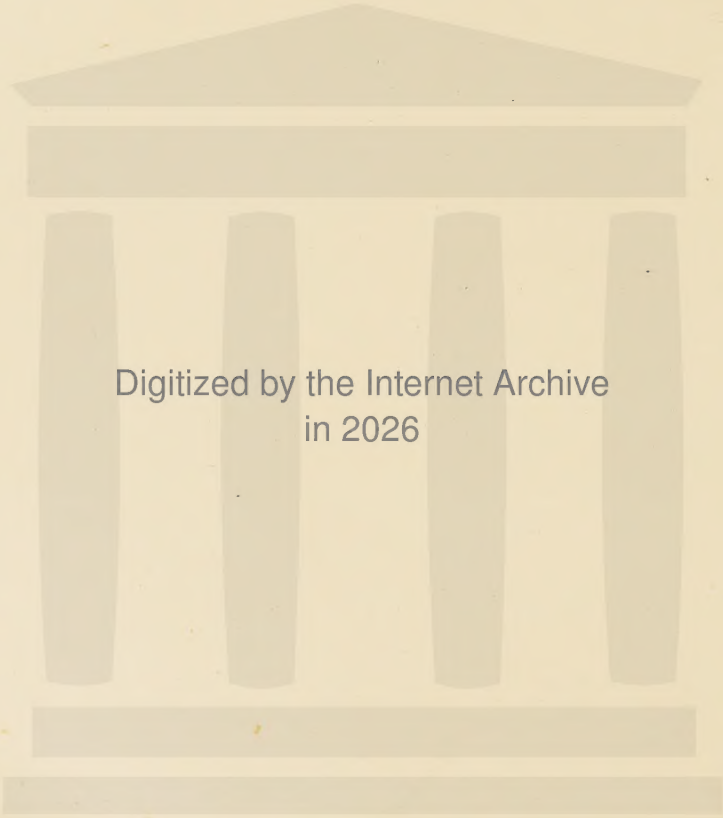
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RERUM BRITANNICARUM MEDII ÆVI SCRIPTORES,

OR

CHRONICLES AND MEMORIALS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

DURING

THE MIDDLE AGES.

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THE CHRONICLES AND MEMORIALS

OF

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

DURING THE MIDDLE AGES.

PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHORITY OF HER MAJESTY'S TREASURY, UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS.

On the 26th of January 1857, the Master of the Rolls submitted to the Treasury a proposal for the publication of materials for the History of this Country from the Invasion of the Romans to the reign of Henry VIII.

The Master of the Rolls suggested that these materials should be selected for publication under competent editors without reference to periodical or chronological arrangement, without mutilation or abridgment, preference being given, in the first instance, to such materials as were most scarce and valuable.

He proposed that each chronicle or historical document to be edited should be treated in the same way as if the editor were engaged on an Editio Princeps; and for this purpose the most correct text should be formed from an accurate collation of the best MSS.

To render the work more generally useful, the Master of the Rolls suggested that the editor should give an account of the MSS. employed by him, of their age and their peculiarities; that he should add to the work a brief account of the life and times of the author, and any remarks necessary to explain the chronology; but no other note or comment was to be allowed, except what might be necessary to establish the correctness of the text.

The works to be published in octavo, separately, as they were finished; the whole responsibility of the task resting upon the editors, who were to be chosen by the Master of the Rolls with the sanction of the Treasury.

The Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury, after a careful consideration of the subject, expressed their opinion in a Treasury Minute, dated February 9, 1857, that the plan recommended by the Master of the Rolls "was well calculated for the accomplishment of this important national object, in an effectual and satisfactory manner, within a reasonable time, and provided proper attention be paid to economy, in making the detailed arrangements, without unnecessary expense."

They expressed their approbation of the proposal that each Chronicle and historical document should be edited in such a manner as to represent with all possible correctness the text of each writer, derived from a collation of the best MSS., and that no notes should be added, except such as were illustrative of the various readings. They suggested, however, that the preface to each work should contain, in addition to the particulars proposed by the Master of the Rolls, a biographical account of the author, so far as authentic materials existed for that purpose, and an estimate of his historical credibility and value.

Rolls House,
December 1857.

Canterbury. Monastery

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LITERÆ CANTUARIENSES.

THE LETTER BOOKS

OF THE

MONASTERY OF CHRIST CHURCH,

CANTERBURY.

VOL. I.

EDITED BY

J. BRIGSTOCKE SHEPPARD, LL.D.

PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF HER MAJESTY'S TREASURY, UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS.

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INTRODUCTION.

INTRODUCTION.

The monastery of Christ Church in Canterbury, a part of whose history is written in the present volumes by the hands of the very monks who were actors in the scenes presented to the reader, had its origin in the little convent, consisting of St. Augustine and his missionary companions, which, under the protection of King Ethelbert of Kent, settled itself in and about the more or less ruinous Roman basilica which was standing on the site of the present cathedral church at the end of the sixth century.

For four hundred years the metropolitical church, and the monastery dependent upon it, developed in riches and importance by a continuous process of growth, scarcely interrupted until the end of this long period, and then the Danish invaders assailed the city, captured and afterwards murdered the Archbishop, more than once greatly damaged the fabric of the church, and devastated the domestic buildings of the monastery.

Immediately after the Norman Conquest, Archbishop Lanfranc, who was summoned from Normandy by the King and invested with the primacy, raised the cathedral from its ashes, rebuilt the monastic offices, and re-established discipline and order among the disorganised monks.

One more century passed away, and then, when, by his martyrdom, Archbishop Becket became the national saint and his tomb the most famous place of pilgrimage in England, wealth poured into the treasury of the convent; the church was rebuilt almost doubled in its dimensions; and with its revenues augmented by the never-ceasing oblations brought by the hands of pilgrims,

flocking to the Martyr's shrine, the monastery gained a prominence such as it had never before possessed. It is to the Christ Church thus renovated and enriched that, after the lapse of about another century, the reader is introduced by the *Literæ* contained in these volumes.

"Registrum in cancellaria Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuari-
" ensis, per Fratres Thomas Bungay et Alexandrum
" Lundon Cancellarios, factum ibidem anno Domini
" MCCCC^mo undecimo. In quo continentur litteræ paten-
" tes et clausæ, et alia sub sigillo communi Dominorum
" Prioris et Capituli emanancia; a principio et tempore
" Reverendi fratris Johannis Wodnysberg Prioris, qui,
" electus per Capitulum, et sublimatus exstitit in Prio-
" rem ejusdem Ecclesiæ per Reverendissimum in Christo
" fratrem et dominum Dominum Thomam Arundel, Dei
" gratia tunc Cantuariensem Archiepiscopum, in die
" Ordinacionis Sancti Gregorii, anno Domini ut supra."

Under this title, which (*mutatis mutandis*) occurs from time to time, age after age, in the registers of the monastery of Christ Church Canterbury, are enrolled copies of all those documents issued by the convent (and in some cases of those sent to it) which could in any way be described as *litteræ*, and it is with these copies that the present work is occupied.

A complete transcript of the registers is not here given; because, in the first place, it would fill an inconvenient number of volumes; and, secondly, because the cancellarii, under the denomination of *letters*, classed and copied every description of writing which bore a heading addressed to any person or any number of persons; extending, in importance, from an invitation to dinner, to a Pope's threat of excommunication of an archbishop; and including matter as uninteresting as the forms by which monastic and diocesan officials were appointed; as well as statutes and ordinances of the realm, which are in no sense inedited materials for

writing history. Many of these documents which relate to matters affecting the whole of Christendom or the entire Catholic Church in England, such as the Bull *Clericis Laicos* and the monition *Circumspecte agatis*, are to be found in the muniment rooms of all considerable ecclesiastical corporations, and since, owing to their universal interest, they have been often printed, they are not reproduced in this present collection; a preference being rather given to such inedited examples as are nearly connected with the history of the metropolitical church of Canterbury, and such as illustrate the political, ecclesiastical, and social relations of that great corporation.

In the earliest register from which extracts are given in the present volumes—one of the fourteenth century—the term *littera* is found to be, more nearly than it is afterwards, confined to that kind of missive which should rather be described as *epistola;* seeing that a large proportion of the examples are directed to individual persons and not to the world at large; *Reverendo in Christo patri* and *Tres excellent Prince* occurring commonly where the great ones of the land are concerned, and *Dilecto nobis in Christo, Trescher en Dieu,* or, more familiarly, *A son bon et fyable amy* where the Prior's more humble friends are in question. Again, in this early register the Prior's personal letters appear in a larger proportion than the *letters patent* sealed with the common seal of the convent. But with the commencement of the fifteenth century the latter form of instrument, proclamations, as it were, addressed *Omnibus in Christo fidelibus,* or *Universis ad quos præsentes litteræ pervenerint,* crowd out the less formal missives, and form the staple of the contents of the registers. Each of these forms is, however, historically interesting and even valuable, for the first lays open the daily official (and some part of the private) life of a dignitary as high in rank as the head of the oldest and most eminent Bene-

dictine monastery in England; whilst the second form explains how the corporate business of this great monastery was conducted, how its income was realised, its privileges obtained and maintained, and its resources husbanded and expended for the support of religion and the advancement of the Benedictine order.

The personal character of the contents of the earliest register may be accounted for by the fact, that at the latter end of the reign of Edward II. the monastery was ruled by Prior Henry of Eastry, a man of great age, of much mental activity, and of wide experience in both political and ecclesiastical affairs. This wise Prior's opinion and advice were sought by and given to his younger and less experienced colleague the Archbishop, by whom he was consulted not only upon matters affecting the Church, but who even resorted to him for help in the political difficulties which in those critical times drove him almost to his wits' end. It must be confessed that however well the Prior may have deserved the character of a skilful politician, he here gives no evidence of his capacity; for he invariably, when affairs become intricate, recommends his correspondent to preserve an impossible *via media;* to remain strictly neutral in spite of his sworn allegiance to the King; and to avoid committing himself to either party until he can foretell which will win. Prior Eastry's successor, Richard Oxenden, naturally inherited a considerable part of his predecessor's influence, and therefore carried on the same kind of correspondence with Archbishop Meopham; who for the first three years after his promotion had been used to seek advice and submit to snubbing from old Eastry. This Archbishop was apparently a man of some obstinacy, but of little real self-reliance, and there is no doubt that, isolated as he was by his rank, he found consolation in exchanging ideas with the new Prior, although this latter had not attained to the dignity of grey hairs, being only about forty years old. When Archbishop Meopham died, and

John Stratford, a self-willed man and a practised statesman, filled the see, Prior Oxenden lost much of his influence, and entirely fell from his high position as political guide to the Archbishop; who even took an early opportunity of reproving him for attempts at petty encroachments upon the archiepiscopal privileges, and for the silly verbosity of his literary style. With the death, then, of Prior Oxenden in 1338, there is almost an end of such friendly letters as passed between Archbishop Raynold and Prior Eastry, and the registers are in a great measure occupied by correspondence on matters relating to the business of the monastery and the diocese of Canterbury, set forth in instruments savouring of the lawyer's office, and consequently disfigured by tautology and circumlocution.

For nearly a century and a half the successors of Eastry and Oxenden, many of them dignified prelates and judicious rulers of their House, do not nevertheless stand out prominently, either in the chronicles of the historians or in the records of their own monastery, as having shown any great force of character. In succession they gave plate and vestments to their church; from time to time they obtained the royal license permitting them to add new parcels of land to the estates of the convent, *statuto de religiosis non obstante;* and they sat contentedly under the protecting shadow of a series of energetic and powerful archbishops. An apparent exception to this general dead level of amiable dullness appeared in the person of Thomas Chillenden, who ruled at Christ Church for the last ten years of the fourteenth and the first ten of the fifteenth centuries. In his days was begun the reconstruction of the western limb of the cathedral church, which, built three hundred years before by Lanfranc, had fallen into ruin. Under his direction also almost all the domestic edifices of the monastery, and the farmhouses of its dependent manors, were rebuilt or remodelled; the cloister and chapter-house were so completely altered and improved as to

pass for the sole work of this active Prior; and, lastly, Canterbury College, in Oxford, was re-erected from its foundations. But all these good deeds were only those of a zealous steward desirous of making the best of the property committed to his care, and it is only by the occurrence of one or two familiar letters from Archbishop Arundel that the Prior is shown to have had any interest in the wider world of national politics. One of these letters was written from the Archbishop's place of exile in "the "earthly Paradise," and another, after his repatriation, on the morrow of his escape from the hands of the rebels under Kent and Salisbury.

After Chillenden, prior succeeded to prior, each one adding his portion to the church, which was still undergoing reconstruction, until A.D. 1472, when William Sellyng was elected to the office, which, by his natural talents and his great learning, he rendered more illustrious than it had ever been, even when filled by his most worthy predecessors. The article in the obituary of the convent which records Sellyng's death sums up his career in these words: "Hic in divinis agendis multum "devotus; lingua Græca et Latina valde eruditus; "necnon Regis embassiator extitit ad Summum Ponti- "ficem ubi orationem fecit; ac etiam Christianissimo ac "victoriosissimo Regi Francorum missus." This short summary but very inadequately represents the long and busy career of the man who re-introduced the study of the Greek language to the extreme western world; and who was, as a statesman, selected and employed by an astute King who chose none but able men to carry out his designs; for he was, at the same time, an assiduous head of his House, whose affairs he conducted with a minute supervision which would seem incompatible with the distracted attention and the long absences demanded by his numerous foreign embassies. Judging from the innumerable memoranda, receipts, and drafts of letters, entirely written by this Prior's easily recognisable hand, which are found among

the cathedral records, it would seem as if he had only become an ambassador as a relaxation, and that the management of the estates of the convent must have been his principal vocation. Greedy for work he took everything into his own hands, rarely employed an amanuensis, and was his own auditor.

Beyond all doubt William Sellyng derived his name from the little village of Selling a few miles from Canterbury, the population of which supplied the monastery with a constant supply of recruits; in fact, as the obituary shows, there was almost always one of the name on the books. This community of name does not of course imply any degree of kindred, for every novice at his admission adopted the name of his place of origin as a surname, an appendage with which, until far down in the middle ages, he would be unprovided at the time of his leaving his country home.

William Sellyng was probably born about 1430; for he is recorded to have made his *profession* in 1448, when he would be about eighteen years old. Having entered at Archbishop Islip's College in Oxford, he passed through the curriculum of the University, and in 1464 he received permission from the Chapter of his convent to farther pursue his studies in any university he might choose. Having selected that of Bologna, he, in company with another Canterbury monk, went to Italy, visited Venice, studied at the university of his choice, and there earned the degree of Doctor of Divinity. In 1469, accompanied by another friend and fellow-monk Reginald Goldstone, he went to Rome to petition the Pope for the plenary indulgences which, since the martyrdon of St. Thomas, the Popes had granted twice in every century to pilgrims visiting the shrine. These two festivals marked the jubilees or centennial recurrences of the two great commemorations of the Saint, that is to say, of his death, which took place in 1170, and of his *translation*, which was celebrated in 1220. The

"refero, &c." Here it is impossible to avoid the inference that the writer (the Prior), in thanking his correspondent (the Archbishop) for useful medical advice, composed the draft in the register, writing it with his own hand; for certainly a clerk prefixing a title to a copy of a completed letter of the Prior's, which he had been directed to transcribe into the register, would have written in the title: "Littera regraciatoria super bono "regimine corporis *Domini Prioris*," and not "*corporis* "*nostri*." The *corporis mei* of the body of the letter is of course not so significant, because the clerk would reproduce the very words of the Prior's autograph.

Again it cannot be supposed that a mere copying clerk would venture to rebuke his Prior's irreverence, by cutting out his joke about "canonical purgation." (found on p. 121), and substituting a more decent report to the doctor. Both the original and the amended clauses were surely composed and written on the page by the very hand of the author of the letter.

The text of the letters is given as exactly as possible in the form which it has in the MS.; at the expense, it is true, of a few aberrations in spelling even in the Latin letters, and of an infinite number of eccentricities in those written in French. This latter language, which was used by the monks in their oral communications with the polite but unlearned world, was evidently written in these letters so as to represent the sound of the words as it commended itself to each writer's ear; with the result of a great deal of grammatical confusion. It being clear that any interference with the false concords of the writers would end in a total reconstruction of the letters, and a total destruction of the archaic quaintness of the style, and the loss of much of the philological value, no attempt has been made to correct errors of syntax, or to bring the language up to the standard of the "French of Parys;" each writer being allowed to represent, in his own manner, the speech used by the cultivated classes of society in his day. The

same reasoning applies with almost equal force to the Latin letters, and hence it has been considered best to set down the words of the records letter by letter as they are found in the original, one only exception being made in the case of diphthongs, which are used in obedience to a salutary law imposed upon the editors of volumes in this series of Chronicles and Memorials. Conjectural emendations are of course not admissible in the transcription of ancient texts, where the original essay or chronicle is the work of a professional writer and where more than one copy usually exists, in which case comparison of the various MSS. will give the true reading; but in the present collection, written often by penmen only moderately skilled in their work, and sometimes by men who wrote with difficulty, slips of the pen—omissions or transpositions of words or letters—frequently occur in which the error is palpable and the required correction self-evident; in such cases the editor has ventured to add a missing word, indicating the addition by placing the words in brackets, and to make such other corrections as are plainly required. In words containing the sibilant letter *t*, as *ratio, gratia, mutatio, appellatio,* the mediæval scribes used both *c* and *t* in the penultimate syllable; some authorities say always the first; others always the second; whilst others again believe that both letters were used indifferently; the differences of opinion arising from the fact that in the MSS. the two letters are so much alike in form that they can only be discriminated by very close examination. In this conflict of opinions the editor, falling back upon the immense mass of MS. at his command, has found that wherever these two letters can be distinguished (that is to say, usually but not invariably) the *c* is always employed from the middle of the 13th up to quite the end of the 15th century. Before and after those dates the *t* occurs almost as regularly as in the present day. Instances of the use of both letters in one and the same

document do occur: thus in Abbot Silvester's profession (Appx. 22) *t* is used in all cases except in the word *attestacio;* and the same predominance of *t*, with the occasional employment of *c*, is found at the end of the 15th century, when Prior Sellyng brought over from Italy the revived classical forms which he found there. Where *gra* and *rone* are found in the MS. for *gratia* and *ratione* the plan of exactly following the original fails, but an endeavour is made to do so as far as possible.

The Latin syntax of the Middle Ages hardly varied from that of classical times, when the pen was held by a scholar; but there are to be found in the letters many instances of slipshod composition, and even violated grammatical rules; the result of want of skill in the composer. Such errors, which are fewer in number than might be expected, are reproduced without correction. Among many mediæval forms which, deliberately and usually, vary from classical usage are to be found the following: *exhuberans, perhendinare, ortus* (for hortus), *arciorem* and *artare* (for arctiorem and arctare), *valitudo, elemosina, abciorem* (for aptiorem), *ascultare* (for auscultare), *coartare* and *cohartare* (for coarctare), *cohercio*, &c. A Bishop of Winchester, and at least two priors, select *jam tarde* as the equivalent of *now lately;* and Prior Hathbrand considered that *ore tard* was a good translation of *nuper.*

With regard to the translations of the French letters; seeing that they are composed in everyday French with little attention to the graces of composition, an endeavour has been made to render them into everyday English without attempting to polish the language so far as to destroy the likeness to the original, or even to express a precise meaning in those cases where the composition of the old writer is cloudy and ambiguous.

Matters of *common form*, such as presentations to benefices, appointments to offices, letters of confraternity,

toegther with all the notices sent out on the occasion of the death and the election of a prior, are omitted from this selection, unless the persons concerned were public characters; or unless some exceptional circumstances caused a special form to be drawn up for the occasion; but care has been taken to include at least one typical specimen of every formula in the work.

The arrangement of undated letters in correct chronological order has involved a good deal of trouble, but it is believed that (with very few slips) a fairly satisfactory result has been reached; by (1) attention to the place of each example in the register and by comparison with surrounding dated examples; (2) by study of the subject matter, which often indicates the place of a letter in a series; (3) by comparison of the writing with that of scribes who have left dated specimens. The first of these processes ought alone to have sufficed for indicating the date of every enrolled letter; seeing that when two dated letters occur with several undated examples between them it may fairly be inferred that, starting from the first which bears a date, those which follow were written on various days extending from that of the first to that of the second dated specimen. But it happened that a Chapter-Clerk of the last century undertook to arrange these registers for the bookbinder; finding them either unbound in quires, or, what is more likely, in the shape of torn, bound books, the detached contents of which were mixed in confusion. It is not easy to say what rule the Chapter-Clerk followed, but the rule, whatever it was, was a bad one, and the result is bewildering. Where there was any difficulty in finding the place of a few quires, they were thrust among the others at random, with a note such as that which here follows: "Ne quid "antiqui pereat, schædæ sex primæ, ut ut discerptæ "jam collectæ, libro præponuntur. Ita etiam octo- "decem aliæ consuuntur, et in finem primæ partis "libri rejiciuntur—quas omnes qui potest proprios in

"locos reponat." Lastly, after an arrangement conducted on these lines, the books were strongly bound in leather, so that it is likely they will not fall to pieces and allow of rearrangement, for some centuries. One principal register begins in the middle, goes on smoothly until within a few quires of the end, and then reverts to the very beginning, but does not catch up the first portion, from which it is separated, as this latter is from the end of the volume, by miscellaneous quires of all dates.

It must not be forgotten that during the period embraced by these volumes the year began on the 25th of March, and hence it comes that there is an apparent discrepancy between the date on the face of the letter and that in the margin where the year beginning on the 1st of January is employed.

Many of the matters referred to in the letters are there but incompletely told, it is therefore necessary to fill up the imperfect outlines by resorting to other authentic sources of information. The explanations and illustrations which follow hereafter are to a great extent gathered from the "Chartæ Antiquæ Ecclesiæ Christi "Cantuariensis," helped out by such of the printed chronicles as mention the matters discussed. To each of these explanations and illustrations a marginal title is affixed, which directs the reader to the index, where he will find references to all the letters in the volumes which deal with the matter in hand.

De Primatu. 37. The question of the relative dignity of the Churches and Archbishops of Canterbury and York, with the claim of pre-eminence and primacy on the part of the former, and resistance to that claim on the part of the latter, was a subject of acrimonious debate during the early Middle Ages. Gregory the Great seems to have dimly foreseen that some such rivalry might arise; for in an epistle sent to St. Augustine he provides that the bishop (ultimately to develop into an archbishop) whom he

authorises Augustine to appoint to York, shall be subject to Augustine personally; but his ambiguous directions are by no means calculated to explain the relations which he intended to exist in the future between the Churches. He writes: "Ad Eboracam vero civitatem te volumus "episcopum mittere, quem ipse judicaveris ordinare: "ita duntaxat, ut si eadem civitas cum finitimis locis "verbum Dei receperit, ipse quoque duodecem epi- "scopos ordinet, et metropolitani honore perfruatur; "quia ei quoque, si vita comes fuerit, pallium tribuere, "Domino favente, disponimus; quem tamen tuæ fra- "ternitatis volumus dispositioni subjacere. Post obi- "tum vero tuum, ita episcopis quos ordinaverit præsit "ut Lundoniensis Episcopi nullo modo ditioni sub- "jaceat. Sit vero inter Londoniæ et Eboracæ civi- "tatis episcopos, in posterum, honoris ista distinctio, "ut ipse prior habeatur qui prius fuit ordinatus." Bede I., xxix.

Within a few years after this epistle was written a pallium was sent to Paulinus of York, indicating his rank as an archbishop; but the equality of his see with that of Canterbury was not asserted. It may be taken for granted that when Gregory's letter was written he was totally ignorant of all belonging to the city of York except the name, and that he authorised the creation of twelve suffragan bishops under the impression that the province included thriving cities and maintained a numerous population. Possibly some reports of the existence of an imperial city in the northern parts of Britain during the second century had reached him, and he decided to include it in the sweep of his net. However this may be, his letter from its vagueness is quite inefficient as evidence on behalf of the equality of the two sees, and nevertheless it furnished the foundation for all the arguments in favour of this equality. Stubbs in his lives of the Archbishops of York, writes, as being quite convinced by it: "Quod Sanctus Papa "Gregorius Eboracensem Ecclesiam Cantuariensi con- Scrip. x. col. 1685.

" stituit esse parem." In the year 1071 Gervase relates
Script. x. col. 1653. that Thomas (I.) was elected Archbishop of York and came to Canterbury for consecration, but, as he refused to make the usual *profession* of canonical obedience to Lanfranc, consecration was refused to him. The King then called a council on the matter, and by it, it was decreed that Thomas should make his *profession* before he could receive consecration. Hereupon Thomas submitted, made profession, and received consecration. But the matter was not yet settled; for, soon after, both Lanfranc and Thomas went to Rome at the same time, and Lanfranc was received with distinguished honour by the Pope, who gave to him two pallia; one as a mark of personal favour, and the other as the badge of his office of Patriarch of the Church of England. At the same time Thomas injudiciously stirred the question of the primacy—although by the tenor of his profession he was precluded from doing so,—but Alexander II., the reigning Pope, declined to undertake the office of an arbitrator, referring the case to England for settlement. Then at Easter 1072, the two Archbishops having come home, the King called a council at Winchester (afterwards adjourning it to Windsor), where, evidence having been received, Thomas made an unconditional submission, and a composition or compromise was settled. In order that Thomas might have, as became an archbishop, at least one suffragan, Lanfranc agreed that the Bishop of Durham should be subject to him and make profession to him. Gervase adds that "nevertheless several Archbishops of "York have ended their days without obtaining a "pallium." In conclusion Gervase writes: "Jussu tan-"dem Regis, et Episcoporum assensu, factum est scrip-"tum autenticum totius causæ continens finem; quod "in pluribus Angliæ majoribus Ecclesiis, regio sigillo "impressum, cum subscriptionibus Episcoporum et "Abbatum qui præsentes fuerunt, positum est."

In confirmation of this statement of Gervase the muniment room of Canterbury Cathedral can still show not only one of these counterparts of the composition, which, as Malmesbury and, after him, all the other historians report, were witnessed by thirteen bishops and eleven of the great abbots of the kingdom, and which according to Gervase were fortified by the apposition of the King's seal; but also in the same portfolio is preserved the actual document which was executed by the very parties concerned, the very parchment which bears the characteristic roughly drawn, deeply scrawled cross of the Conqueror, the delicate sign made by the Queen, and the autograph signatures (each to all appearances having a character indicative of the personal qualities of the writer) of Lanfranc and Thomas as principals, of Hubert the Legate, and of the Bishops Wulstan of Worcester, Walkelin of Winchester, Erfastus of Thetford, and Remigius of the Oxfordshire Dorchester, specially invited to be official witnesses.[1] The other bishops and abbots, whose names are attached to the counterparts which were written on the same day as the actual deed (and even, both text and signatures, by the same hand as the original), were doubtless present in the hall at the time of the execution of the *composition*, and are therefore justly set down as witnesses of the fact; but those who really attested the signatures of the two Archbishops concerned were the King and Queen, the Legate, and the before-named four Bishops, only.

This original record was only identified a few years ago; the more important looking counterpart bearing the great seal having until that time quite eclipsed it; and the chroniclers, even Eadmer, who was a Canterbury monk, and who actually handled and copied the record when it was used to support Archbishop Ralph's claim in 1119, cite only the counterpart, with the long list of witnesses and the great seal of white

Eadmer, Hist. Nov. 252.

[1] The first document in the Appendix is a copy of this *composition*.

wax. Probably none of them, except Eadmer, had seen the original, their copies being made from the counterparts which, as Gervase says, were sent to all the English cathedrals.

Eadmer, 199 et seqq.

In 1108, Archbishop Anselm, considering that Thomas (II.) of York was tardy in undertaking his journey to Canterbury, whither, by the terms of the *composition*, he was bound to come to receive his benediction, wrote to summon him, and received a reply in which Thomas excused himself, among other reasons for delay pleading his poverty, and asking that a longer term might be given to him than that assigned in the summons. The delay having been conceded, Thomas, under one pretext and another, deferred his coming, until at last, finding the King, the Pope, and the Bishops all opposed to him, he (in 1109) delivered his written profession of obedience to the Church of Canterbury into the hands of Richard Bishop of London, and received consecration from him in St. Paul's, London; Abp. Anselm having died during

Eadmer, 237.

the progress of the controversy. The next Archbishop of York, Thurstan, troubled Ralph of Canterbury for four years, even causing him to reside at Rome for a great part of the time, in order the better to be able to counteract Thurstan's machinations. The latter, after soliciting three Popes (Paschal II., Gelasius, and Calixtus II.), at last obtained benediction from the latter at the Council of Reims, and ultimately he acquired full possession of his see. Eadmer copies several papal Bulls favouring the pretensions of Canterbury, which were searched for and found among the muniments of his monastery during the course of Ralph's controversy with Thurstan. These extend from the 7th to the 10th century, but are all expressed in such general terms, that it cannot be wondered at if the Archbishops of York declined to accept them as evidences of the subjection of their see.

De cruce Eboraci, 32.

The title *De Cruce Eboraci* which occurs more than once in the letters of the present volume refers

to an offshoot of the long-standing dispute above described between the Archbishops of Canterbury and York as to the primacy. The northern Archbishop from time to time in passing through towns of the southern province chose to make his cavalcade assume something of the form of a state procession, at the end of which he rode "cruce prævia"—with his uplifted cross borne before him. The Archbishops of Canterbury naturally endeavoured to prevent this assumption, especially as their rivals acquired a custom of giving episcopal benediction to the crowds who met them in the roads, and even to the congregations of the churches which they attended during their progress.

Archbishop Becket was the first who resisted this encroachment of the rival prelate. The personal animosity existing between Becket and Roger of York caused the latter to take every possible opportunity of defying the former; whilst the unyielding character of Becket led him to resist an infringement of his privilege by an opponent; which he would, however, have done, even if the offender had been his nearest friend. In order to counteract Becket's opposition, his adversary applied to the Pope for an authority permitting him to carry his cross when he travelled to the King's councils, and the authority was granted, with a warning that the liberty should be used with circumspection. Afterwards, by Becket's influence, this permission was revoked, but the controversy was not set at rest when the tragedy of 1170 removed one of the disputants. Another early instance of this encroachment occurred in 1193, immediately after the election of Archbishop Hubert to the see of Canterbury. When in that year the clergy were assembled at Westminster (absente Cantuariensi Electo) prepared to discuss the means of raising the great sum required for the ransom of their imprisoned King: "intravit quispiam crucem bajulans, quem "Archiepiscopus Eboracensis,[1] stupentibus cunctis, a ter- "go subsequens, præsumptione stolida turbavit uni-

Materials, &c., Archbishop Becket. Vol. v. passim.

Gervase, Script. x. 1584.

[1] Geoffrey, a natural son of Henry II., *juvenis illiteratus et balbutiens.*

" versos. Quem tandem alloquens G. Roffensis Epi-
" scopus ait: *Si ordinate, ut deceret, ingressus fuisses,*
" *nos tibi cum gaudio assurgeremus et cum salutatione:*
" *verum, quia in dedecus fratris nostri Cantuariensis*
" *Electi . . . . . præsumptuose crucem bajulans*
" *incedis, nullam tibi exhibemus reverentiam . . . . . .*
" Quippe cum notum sit et publicum, Cantuariensem
" Ecclesiam super hoc ab antiquo primatu privilegia-
" tam, et quod non debeat Eboracensis Archiepiscopus
" in diœcesi Cantuariensis Ecclesiæ . . . . . ante se
" crucem deferre." Some eminent London citizens then advised Geoffrey to put his cross out of sight, "ne irri-
" tati Londonienses tales ei facerent contumelias quales
" intulerant prædecessori suo Rogerio, cujus crux in
" medio populi confracta est." The Archbishop, yielding to these remonstrances, lowered his cross and withdrew. In the next year, when King Richard was released from his imprisonment in Germany, the Abp. of York made his way to the coast to meet him at his landing. Neither daring to display his cross publicly, nor yet being willing to travel as a private person: "per dumos et devia
" crucem ferens, eo quod via regia non auderet incedere
" . . . . ad mare descendit."

In the first letter on this subject here printed, Abp. Winchelsey, relating how he has safely accomplished his mission to King Edward[1] in Scotland, reports that in returning to his own province he has, in defiance of the Archbishop of York, had his cross borne before him through the province of the latter; thus asserting one half of his contention, namely, that the Archbishop of Canterbury, as Patriarch as well as Archbishop, could lawfully display his cross throughout all the kingdom. The other half of his contention—that the Archbishop of York should not exhibit his in the southern province

[1] In 1299 Boniface VIII. sent a solemn message to Edward, telling him that he had taken the Scots under his protection as a fief of Rome, and Archbishop Winchelsey was charged with the delivery of these letters to the King.

—he emphatically asserted five years after in the letter 37. Herein the Prior of Christ Church is asked to be on the watch to check Archbishop Greenfield, who was likely to pass through Canterbury, probably on his way to seek a confirmation of his election from Clement V. at Lyons. It was suspected that on his journey the Archbishop would cause his cross to be carried before him, and that the people would kneel to ask his blessing. To prevent and punish such encroachments the Prior was authorised to employ the most solemn ecclesiastical censures. Thorne tells us that on this occasion when at Canterbury the Archbishop of York visited St. Augustine's, but that a written guarantee was exacted from him that his visit in state with his cross erect should not furnish a precedent capable of being used to the prejudice of the abbey. Script. x, 2006.

When, in 1314, Walter Raynold, Winchelsey's successor, was required by the King to assist in the Parliament of York, the royal intervention was employed to keep the two Archbishops from coming into collision. To still farther ensure the keeping of the peace the King wrote to the Archbishop of York forbidding him to molest the Primate whilst marching with his cross displayed; and he also enjoined upon the Earls of Lancaster and Warenne, Lord Henry Percy, the Sheriff, and the Corporation of York that they should all and each show all respect to the cross of Canterbury, and endeavour to prevent a breach of the peace. In 1325, on the occasion of an expected visit from another Archbishop of York, Archbishop Walter prescribed to the Chapter of Christ Church a set of precautions similar to those devised by Winchelsey eleven years before; but in this case he offended the Chapter by an informal manner of addressing them—his letter was directed "Conventui,"—to the community, and not *Capitulo*—to the same community assembled for the purpose of deliberation. He also alarmed them for their privileges by directing that Lr. 44, Appendix 58 et seqq.

during the visit the cathedral church should be put under an interdict, in order that the visitor might have no opportunity of taking part in any services there. The chapter felt that if their own church were closed whilst in those of the city parishes divine service was performed, it would appear to be to the discredit of the cathedral, and therefore they declined to act upon Abp. Walter's mandate. In the Appendix (2) is printed a curious collection of notes, hastily written in the original but laboriously compiled, by Archbishop Winchelsey's counsel, for his client's information on this subject. The counsel could apparently find nothing to the point in the Canon law, and therefore was compelled, in order to show that he was earning his fee, to wander off into a maze of decretals that did not bear upon the question at issue. In the end, with the concurrence of Innocent VI., the Archbishops Islip of Canterbury and Thoresby of York came to a compromise in the year 1355. By this *composition* it was agreed, that each Archbishop should have full liberty to display his cross in any part of the kingdom; and Thoresby conceded that he and each of his successors, on attaining the pontifical dignity, should offer at the shrine of St. Thomas a silver image of a fully vested archbishop worth forty pounds. A hundred years after the execution of the composition the register of the date testifies that Cardinal Kemp, on his translation to York, sent his tributary image to the shrine; and it is to be supposed from this, that his predecessors had done the same, and that the practice was followed by his successors.

Wilk. Concil., III, 31.

Reg. N. 196.

In 1207 the monks of Christ Church refused to accept John de Gray, King John's nominee, as their Archbishop, and were in consequence driven into exile. During their absence (May 3, 1213), the King, pressed by Pandulph the Legate, made his peace with the Church; agreed that the elections of bishops and prelates should be free from any dictation on the part of the Crown; and paid a sum of eight thousand pounds as an in-

The barons' guarantee, 21.

Wendover Ed. Coxe, III., 248.

demnity for the losses suffered by the clergy. The King's promises being notoriously worthless, the most powerful nobles of the kingdom undertook to enforce them, and sent this guarantee to the exiled monks, who on their return brought the letter home with them for preservation in their charter room. The seals of the Barons are still attached to the parchment.

Walter de Langton, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, 22. Walsh, I., 199.

This Bishop was much employed in state affairs by Edward I., and at the date of this letter he was in France, consulting with the Cardinal Legates on the subject of a stable peace which Boniface VIII. proposed to make between the Kings of France and England. He afterwards incurred the hatred of Prince Edward and his partizans, of Gaveston especially, and in 1307, when the Prince became King, he was imprisoned, but was set at liberty on appealing to the Pope. Seven years before this time the Pope, at the instigation of the Prince's faction, cited him to appear at Rome, his judge being prejudiced against him even at the time of the citation, for in the summons Boniface writes: "pastoralis "honestatis oblitus, salutis propriæ immemor, famæ "prodigus, et tanquam sui persecutor honoris, tam "scelestia, tam gravia, tam facinora nephandaque opera "perpetrare non metuit, committere non destitit quæ ". . . . . nec exprimenda nunc vidimus litteris, "neque verborum oraculis reseranda." In spite of the King's enmity, although deprived of office about the Court, he continued Bishop of Lichfield until his death in 1321, and his monument is to this day pointed out as that of the benefactor to whom the cathedral owes the greatest part of its beauty.

Reg. I., 233.

License of Alibi, 22.

The request made in this letter, and granted in that which follows, is one that recurs at frequent intervals in the Canterbury registers. By ancient custom in the first place, put upon record in the twelfth century by the great charter of liberties propounded by Archbishop Becket, it was required that every suffragan bishop of the

province of Canterbury should receive consecration in Canterbury cathedral church, unless he previously asked for and obtained from the Prior and Chapter a licence to be consecrated elsewhere. This privilege is thus expressed in Becket's charter: *Prohibemus etiam ne episcopi Cantuariensis Ecclesiæ suffraganei alibi consecrentur quam in Ecclesia Cantuariensi, cui tenentur et professione et debita subjectione, nisi de communi consensu totius Capituli monachorum Cantuariensium.* About fifty years after Becket's death Archbishop Edmund renewed this privilege, by a charter dealing not, as in Becket's case, with the whole body of the *liberties* of Christ Church, but with this one alone; thus showing the estimation in which it was held. In his time there arose a custom of requiring cautionary letters (*cautiones, litteræ cautionariæ*) guaranteeing the convent against future injurious consequences arising from their granting the licence of *alibi* in any particular case. The Archbishop himself, at this time, applied to the Chapter for one of these favours for Grosteste, Bishop of Lincoln; and on obtaining the licence he sent a *cautio* containing the clause: *consecrationem ipsam in eodem loco (ecclesia de Rading) post contradictionem Capituli Cantuariensis Ecclesiæ, postmodum tamen de consensu ipsius, a nobis requisito pariter et optento, celebratum fuisse protestamur.*

Reg. I. 86.

Reg. I. 97.

Wendover IV., 352.

De chrismate non deliberando, 29.

Archbishop Winchelsey having quarrelled with the monks of St. Augustine's Abbey (as will be hereafter explained) in this letter directs that they shall be punished by cutting off the supply of the material by help of which many of their rites were performed. The power to do this was conferred by Becket's great charter in the words: "*nec crisma vel oleum, per Cantuariensem provinciam dividendum, aliunde quam ab Ecclesia Cantuariensi aliquo tempore percipiatur;*" where *provinciam* is apparently an error for *diœcesim.*

The twenty eventful years during which Archbishop Winchelsey filled the see of Canterbury are very inadequately represented in these letters. As has already been pointed out, Archbishop Raynold, Winchelsey's successor, anxiously consulted Prior Eastry, in his political difficulties, and (seeing how momentous were the scenes in which Winchelsey played a part) it might have been expected that he too would have had recourse to the counsels of this Prior, during at least the twelve troubled years with which his pontificate began. But in Raynold's case the Prior had become venerable from years and experience, whilst the Archbishop was a comparatively young man, glad to profit by the wisdom of his senior. Archbishop Winchelsey, on the contrary, was not only in all probability the elder, but he was a man endowed with such force of character, that in all his history he seems never to have sought advice from anyone, or to have evaded responsibility by sheltering himself behind anyone's wisdom; one result of this independence being that but few of his letters occur in this collection. His exulting tone in the letter 32, where he reports how he has out-generalled and defied the Archbishop of York; the fear with which his chaplain regarded him (34), a fear so abject that he preferred to invent and utter a false tale to impose upon his master, rather than run the risk of rousing his indignation against the Prior of Christ Church by offering him, in the name of the latter, a gift which so proud a prelate would not think worthy of his acceptance; the unsparing measures which he prescribes for curbing the encroachments of the Archbishop of York (37), are all indications of the haughty and unyielding character, which (except in the one case of his submission to the King in 1305) the historians have attributed to him. But although the Prior was not the Archbishop's adviser he was certainly his friend; so much so, that when restored to his functions at the end of his exile, but before his return to England, he specially appointed him

Archbishop Winchelsey's suspension, restoration, and canonization, 26.

his Vicar-General, thus conferring upon him the rule of the diocese in spiritual matters.

The documents in the Appendix (54) referring to this matter require a few words of explanatory narrative to make their significance apparent. Winchelsey was elected two years after Peckham's death (in 1293), and for two years more he lived abroad, soliciting the Curia in order to obtain his *pallium*. Soon after his return (in 1296) Edward I. demanding a subsidy from the clergy was refused by them under the leadership of the Archbishop, who then published the new Bull (*Clericis laicos*) of Boniface VIII., which forbade the clergy of all Christendom to contribute money on the demand of the secular executive, without the consent of the Holy See previously asked and obtained. The other more pliable prelates yielded to the pressure put upon them by the King, but Winchelsey refused to give up the smallest point; preferring rather to break up his princely household, and to retire in poverty to an obscure farmhouse. Within the space of a year the King, anxious on going abroad not to leave behind him so powerful a subject in a state of enmity and almost in a condition of martyrdom, became reconciled to the Archbishop, and appointed him to be a special adviser of his son. When the letter 32 was written the Archbishop had just been sent by the Pope to deliver to the King, who was besieging Kaerlaverock, a peremptory message, commanding him to cease his hostilities against the Scots, whose kingdom he asserted was a fief of the Holy See. This dangerous embassy, as the letter shows and the chronicles relate, Winchelsey carried out to the satisfaction of the Pope, and even with safety to himself. He found the King at Sweetheart Abbey (Duzquer) in Galloway, delivered the Pope's *Bull*, and came home triumphant. This letter should not be dated as it is in the margin A.D. 1299 (which is the date of Boniface's *Bull*), but September A.D. 1300. The Archbishop delivered the *Bull* to the King on Aug. 26th in the latter year, fourteen months

Matt. West., Anno 1300.

after it issued from the *Roman* Chancery, and it is reasonable to suppose that at least a week elapsed before he could arrive within the confines of his own province.

In the year 1305 Edward's hands were unoccupied by military affairs, and he was at leisure to rake up old grievances against the Archbishop, accusing him of disaffection and conspiracy in the long settled matter of the Constable and Earl Marshal. Upon being thus accused Winchelsey's proud spirit yielded for the first and last time, he cast himself at the King's feet and asked for pardon in the humblest terms. At this time he was involved in his great suit concerning jurisdiction with St. Augustine's Abbey (see "*St. Augustine's*" in this preface), and he soon received a citation from Clement V., suspending him from his functions, and requiring him to appear personally in the Curia at Avignon, to answer an appeal of the Abbot. In the usual course he asked for the King's license to go over sea, which was contemptuously granted to him, with an intimation that it might possibly be more difficult to obtain leave to return.

It is probable that the letter (37) dated from Lambeth in March 1306 was one of the last official acts performed by Winchelsey before he obeyed the citation to Avignon; going himself into banishment and leaving William de Testa and Peter Amaluini, two foreigners nominated by the Pope, administrators of the diocese, in both spiritual and temporal matters, in his absence. This appointment of the foreign administrators was resented with indignation by the King; who, declaring that no alien should have control of the profits of English benefices, displaced them and commissioned Humphrey de Walden to manage the archiepiscopal estates. The judicious nursing of the estates by Walden resulted in an accumulation of rents during the Archbishop's exile, so that on his return he found that he had economised by going abroad. Although the administration of the temporalities

of the see were taken out of the hands of the Pope's nuntii, they continued to exercise the spiritual jurisdiction until the Archbishop's suspension was removed.

When Edward I. died, in 1307, there came better times for the Archbishop, who was recalled by the new King and reinstated in his office; having previously by the King's influence been relieved from his suspension. The records (54) in the Appendix belong to this period of the Archbishop's life, and, as far as they go, are evidence at first hand of the events which they commemorate.[1]

Winchelsey died in A.D. 1313, and as he had been recognised as a political confessor, who under a less politic king might easily have attained the dignity of martyrdom, a party was found who chose him for their champion, and, as in the cases of his predecessors Becket and Edmund Rich, demanded his canonisation at the hands of the Pope. As after his recall the Archbishop had opposed his benefactor Edward II., the Opposition adopted him when dead as patron of their party, and Thomas Earl of Lancaster, at first, and after his execution, his brother Henry, led the movement and accepted the office of chief advocate of the canonisation (54, 74). Following the usual procedure, the Pope required a certified list of miracles performed by the Archbishop whilst living, and by his relics after his death; and he found it necessary to remind Earl Henry, who was impatient for the completion of the work, that the act of canonisation was a complicated process, demanding much time and deliberation. Two bishops were commissioned to compile a catalogue of the Confessor's miracles; but either authenticated instances were rare, or zeal grew cold, for after a time the movement died a natural death as far as any formal act of canonisation was concerned. But in his

[1] The appendix of documents derived from sources other than the Letter-Books will be found at the end of the last volume of this collection, the present volume having already, without the appendix, exceeded the prescribed size.

lifetime the Archbishop had been a generous almsgiver, whose free-handed charity had personally endeared him to others beside the anti-Despenser party, and in consequence he became a popular saint, notwithstanding that he was excluded from the kalendar. His tomb in the cathedral was for many years frequented as a place of pilgrimage and oblation by a not inconsiderable number of devotees, from whom the convent of Christ Church derived a respectable revenue. The accounts of the monastic treasurers show that by Michaelmas A.D. 1313, when the Archbishop had only been dead three months, the offerings "*Ad tumbam Domini Roberti "Archiepiscopi*" amounted to fifty pounds; becoming twenty in the next year; in 1319 sinking to ten; and in the year following suddenly mounting to ninety pounds, the largest sum ever received in any one year. After reaching this *maximum*, the offerings fell off in a fairly constant ratio, so that by A.D. 1337 they had shrunk to three pounds. At this point the series of accounts is interrupted, so that we cannot say at what time the oblations ceased to be a part of the regular income of the church; but when, under the date A.D. 1370, the accounts are resumed, the entry "*De tumba Roberti "Archiepiscopi*" has disappeared from the *partes oblationum;* remaining absent for five years, and then some long surviving admirers and contemporaries of the Confessor contributed seventeen pence; thus marking the end of his shortlived immortality. The Appendix (66, &c.) contains a few details on this matter gathered from sources other than the letter-books.

The history of Archbishop Winchelsey's enmity to John St. Clare is explained in apostolic letters of Boniface VIII. copied into one of the registers of Christ Church. These letters, dated a year after that in which the Archbishop reproves the Chapter for proposing to employ St. Clare as their standing counsel, show that by lapse of time his animosity had not abated. The title in the register stands: "Littera protectionis Boni-

J. de Sancto Claro, 27.

Reg. I. 217. 28 Mar. 1300.

" facti Papæ Magistri J. de Sancto Claro"; and the letter, as exemplified by the Bishop of Tusculum (judex et conservator . . . . per Apostolicam Sedem deputatus), is addressed to John St. Clare, Canon of London, Rector of Fulham, and Chaplain of Cardinal Gentili of St. Martin in Monte, and to the Bishop of London, and the Abbot of St. Edmunds, on the one part; and to the Archbishop and the chapter of Canterbury on the other. In this, the Pope recites St. Clare's advocacy of the cause of St. Augustine's Abbey in opposition to the Archbishop, and adds that when St. Clare asked of the latter, enraged by this opposition, a license permitting him to visit the Curia, he replied: "Quod ipsum in persona et " rebus persequeretur, in tantum quod exinde totum " regnum Angliæ loqueretur"; in consequence of which threat, the Pope continues, "idem Magister Johannes, " super hoc se offerens coram nobis, per instrumenta " publica faciendo plenam fidem, ac reputans sibi " corporaliter et realiter periculum imminere, nobis " humiliter supplicavit ut providere sibi de protec- " tionis et defensionis remedio dignaremur." The apostolic letters then commit the protection of St. Clare in the future to the Bishop of Tusculum, who warns the Archbishop and the Chapter, that if he be molested in person or in goods, and if the molestation be not atoned for, then that the Archbishop shall ipso facto incur the successive sentences of exclusion from the church, suspension *a divinis*, and excommunication; and that the Chapter in like manner shall, as a corporation, be put under an interdict. In either case the offender is required, if summoned by St. Clare's proctor, to appear before the Bishop of Winchester or the Dean of St. Paul's, to whom jointly and severally is committed the power of pronouncing the threatened sentences. When relations such as those above alluded to existed between St. Clare and the Archbishop, it is not wonderful that the latter should be unwilling to see the former selected as standing counsel of his own monastery.

The church and abbey popularly named St. Augustine's were founded by Ethelbert, at the suggestion of the great missionary, at the end of the sixth century; and, as behoved a foundation intended for the last resting place of kings and archbishops, a site was selected outside the walls of the city, although it lay within a few hundred yards of the cathedral church, to which this new church, dedicated to SS. Peter and Paul, was destined to become a troublesome rival. Many different, even apparently unconnected, causes, from time to time all through the middle ages, urged into a flame the smouldering animosity of the two monasteries, which, although sometimes dormant, was never completely extinguished. The monopoly of the burials possessed by the abbey excited the jealousy of the church of St. Saviour (afterwards known as the church of the Holy Trinity, and eventually as Christ Church), and induced the monks of the latter foundation to conspire with their Archbishop, Cuthbert, in order to attract the profitable burials to their own cemetery.

St. Augustine's Abbey, Canterbury, and its relations with the Archbishops, 29[3].

When Archbishop Cuthbert lay dying his dangerous condition was concealed, and no warning bells were rung or signs of mourning exhibited, until he was dead and his body actually buried within the area of the monastery of Christ Church, under the shelter of a little chapel which he had built adjoining to the great church. The next Archbishop but one in succession to Cuthbert was Jaenberht, who before his election to the primacy had been Abbot of SS. Peter and Paul, and he naturally selected his burial place in the abbey precincts; but the continuity of the monopoly having been broken, from this time the cathedral church remained the unquestioned resting place of the Archbishops, and the feud between the two monasteries seems to have died out for a long time. According to Gervase so complete a peace prevailed between the Archbishops, whose interests were identified with those of Christ Church, on the

A.D. 758.

Gerv. (Stubbs.) I. 69.

one side and St. Augustine's on the other, that the former esteemed the abbey as the *familiaris Cantuariensi Ecclesiæ filia*, and, whenever the Archbishops thought proper to do so, they were welcome to lodge in the monastery, to hold their courts there, and even to retire thither for seclusion as often as their health, or the custom of the times, required them to undergo blood letting; it was in fact during such a visit to the abbey that Archbishop Dunstan was indulged with a nocturnal vision of angels chanting psalms. "*Sed nunc* "*matri suæ hanc mercedem retribuit, ut eam velit sub* "*pedibus suis conculcare*" writes Gervase in beginning his narrative of a renewal of the strife.

Up to the time of Archbishop Lanfranc the good understanding between the two churches remained unbroken, and the Abbots made profession of canonical obedience to the Archbishops, received benediction from them, and even submitted to be chosen by them; but when in 1099, after the death of Abbot Wido, the King kept the office vacant, the monks took the election into their own hands, and chose a successor, Hugh I., without consulting any authority outside their own Chapter; but even this Abbot made his *profession* to Archbishop Anselm and received benediction from him, at Lambeth, after having in vain endeavoured to induce the Archbishop to perform the ceremony in the King's chapel.

Gerv. I. 73.

At the next vacancy, the Augustinians, encouraged by the hostile attitude which the reigning Pope took up towards Archbishop William, refused to allow their Abbot to receive benediction in Christ Church (the church of their opponents), founding their resistance in the fact that Abbot Hugh I. had professed to Archbishop Anselm at Lambeth. They also, on the strength of a new papal privilege, which they asserted was in their possession although when called upon to show it they refused to do so, proffered a new and unacceptable form of *profession*. This form the Archbishop rejected

and the Abbot elect professed in the usual manner; but through the King's interposition, the benediction was conferred at Chichester and not at Canterbury. In Gervase's account of these two last-named Abbots there is some confusion, for he makes Hugh I., who had already professed to Anselm, offer the new form to William who did not become Archbishop until this Abbot had been dead a year. The Abbot who professed to William was Hugh II., and it is natural to suppose that it was he who proposed to use the unaccustomed form of words.

Under Archbishop Theobald, at the next vacancy of the abbacy, the monks elected one Silvester, who, although he was willing to receive benediction from the Archbishop, nevertheless refused to make a *profession* of canonical obedience to him. Hereupon a reference was made to Rome, which during the short reigns of two Popes produced no result, but in the end a third Pope, Hadrian IV., required the Abbot to make his *profession in the same form* as his predecessors had done. Silvester contended that this clause excused him from making *profession* of any kind, for he denied that his predecessors had done so; but witnesses were called, who testified that they had been present when Abbot Hugh II. professed obedience to Archbishop William; and then Silvester, acknowledging that his argument was untenable, submitted, and went through the ceremonies required by Theobald. In the words of Gervase: hujus professionis et decisionis litis testimonium habet Ecclesia Cantuariensis sub *sigillis septem episcoporum qui ibi præsentes fuerunt.* The record here alluded to, which is printed from the original in the Appendix to this volume (24), is as Gervase writes a triumphant testimony of Silvester's submission, and at the end it contains a copy of the words of *profession,* which were first uttered *viva voce* by the new Abbot, and then, written on a slip of parchment, handed to the Archbishop. The account of this transaciton given by Thorn is greatly at variance with A.D. 1151.

the facts, which are proved by the still existing certificate of the seven bishops. He reports that Hadrian was angry with Theobald, and wrote to him: "nosse te "volumus, quod Abbati Sancti Augustini . . . . . "dedimus in mandatis, ut professionem tibi exhibeat, "si canonice et legitime constiterit prædecessores ejus "ipsam professionem tuis antecessoribus præstitisse. "Quod si non esse constiterit, occasione litterarum "illarum professionem ab illo non audeas ulla violen- "tia extorquere; alioquin, in fervore animi nostri, "tam pro hoc quam pro aliis prælibatis tuum can- "delabrum concutiemus &c." "His igitur mandatis "papalibus prædictus Archiepiscopus, attonitus et "timore percussus, ab exactione professionis supra- "dictæ manum retraxit, et persequi Ecclesiam Sancti "Augustini ultra cessavit." Here the chronicler asserts, or at least implies, that no *profession* was insisted upon, and therefore that none was made; but the certificate of the seven Bishops shows the falsehood of this assertion.

Materials ...Becket. Rolls series, Vol. v. passin.

Archbishop Becket, Theobald's successor, went through almost the same process with Abbot Clarembald as the latter had done with Silvester; so similar in fact were the cases, that the letter of Alexander III. requiring Clarembald to receive benediction from Archbishop Thomas contains the same clause as that by which Hadrian IV., in Silvester's case, almost rendered his injunction to submit invalid. After peremptorily requiring the Abbot to seek benediction from his Archbishop he adds: "et eidem omnem obedientiam et reven- "tiam quam antecessores tui suis prædecessoribus "exhibuerunt . . . . . impendas." Of this saving clause Clarembald made a more efficient use than Silvester had done, and paid for his successful resistance by having to submit to a sentence of *anathema* fulminated by the Archbishop. This dispute like most others in which Archbishop Thomas was involved, had not come to a satisfactory end when his life was cut short in 1170.

Archbishop Richard, who succeeded Becket, was opposed by Abbot Roger, who, although a monk of the Archbishop's own Convent of Christ Church, refused *profession* in the Archbishop's terms; appealed to Rome; and at last received benediction from the hands of the Pope himself, who however bestowed it with the reservation: "Salvo jure et dignitate Cantuariensis Ecclesiæ." This incomplete victory gained by the abbey, and the grant of the use of the pontifical mitre and ring to Abbot Roger, excited the indignation of the monks of Christ Church, but from this time we hear no more in the chronicles of the question of *profession*. Gerv. I., 77.

The monks of St. Augustine's grounded their refusal to humble themselves before their diocesan upon papal Bulls which they possessed, as they asserted, but which they hesitated to submit for examination, and the reason for this is not far to seek; for, about thirty years after Abbot Silvester's benediction, a discovery was made which put them entirely out of court. It was in fact shown that the Bull upon which they relied was an easily recognised forgery. This circumstance, so unfavourable in the upshot to the abbey, is naturally not mentioned by Thorn, who besides being the historian was also the advocate of St. Augustine's; but, which is more to be wondered at, Gervase also, who was the advocate employed by the other side, passes over the discovery without notice. This is the more remarkable, since, as Gervase was a monk of Christ Church, and by profession a writer of chronicles, and therefore well acquainted with the evidences and records of his house, he must, beyond doubt, have seen, and rejoiced over, the parchments about to be here described. Honest historians, then, even those who were contemporaries of the events which they recorded, sometimes sinned at least by omission. The history of the discovery is fully explained in the documents 22 and 23 of the appendix. Rejecting a good deal of irrelevant matter,

the record tells the following story, which Hugh d'Amiens, Archbishop of Rouen (1130–64), related to his nephew Gilles du Perche, Bishop of Evreux, who having written it down sent it to Canterbury attested by the Archbishop's seal. The Archbishop says he remembers that at the Council of Reims circumstances occurred which caused the Bishop of Chalons-sur-Marne to tell Innocent II., who presided at the Council, that whilst he was Abbot of St. Medard's, before he became a bishop, one of his monks, named Guernon, on his deathbed confessed that he had forged papal privileges (of exemption from episcopal jurisdiction) on behalf of several monasteries, among which he named St. Ouen's at Rouen and St. Augustine's of Canterbury, receiving in recompense certain precious ornaments which he gave to the church of St. Medard. Attached to this narrative, written as it came from the Archbishop's mouth, is another document also written by the Bishop of Evreux, and formerly (even in Wharton's time) bearing his seal. This testifies to the fact that, in consequence of this report of the Archbishop of Rouen,the Abbot of St. Augustine's, upon being required to do so, produced his privilege of exemption, which, being recognised as the Bull forged by Guernon, was, by command of the King and by the hand of the Bishop of Evreux, handed over to be burnt. Although these two records are now united by stitches, there must have been a considerable lapse of time between the execution of the first and the second parts. An endorsement tells how the first part was sent to Hadrian IV., whilst the second is on the face of it addressed to Alexander III. It is probable that the process took something of the following form: (1.) The narrative written down in the very words of the Archbishop, and bearing his seal, was sent to Christ Church. Then (2.) the Bishop of Evreux must have been armed with papal authority to enable him to compel the

Aug. Sac. II., iv.

production of the bull. (3.) Lastly, as the command of the King is so clearly insisted on as a condition for the burning, the Bishop must have carried the forged privilege to the King's presence, and there destroyed it; at the same time certifying Pope Alexander of the fact under his seal, and giving to the Chapter of Christ Church the present copy of the certificate, also authenticated by his seal.

Until quite the end of the 13th century the Archbishops and the Chapter of St. Augustine's maintained a state of antagonism without going actually to war. Tired of the expenses of litigation, the two monasteries seem to have been chiefly occupied in endeavouring to outwit each other in a series of compromises (*compositiones*) which were settled between them during the century. The respective rights of the convents on the high sea—on the quay at Fordwich—in the common meadows at Sturry—and, especially, in their contiguous harbours of Sandwich belonging to Christ Church, and Stonor which was in the fee of St. Augustine's, were all minutely defined, and as far as can be judged equitably settled; even a spiritual confraternity was arranged and secured by an indented deed. With the accession of Archbishop Winchelsey in 1294 an active campaign was again opened. After some skirmishing concerning the old question of exemption, the Abbot, who was a delegate judge appointed by the Pope to hear a suit concerning Wingham College, snatched an opportunity of excommunicating the Archbishop "auctoritate aposto-"lica." This was not a very serious matter, in fact it only signified that through a technicality the Archbishop was in *contempt;* but it must have been very galling to a man of Winchelsey's haughty temper, and with his exacting opinions on the subject of hierarchical subordination. Soon after this (in 1300) Boniface VIII. issued a "Nova exemptio Abbatis et Conventus Sancti Au-" gustini." In this he mentions *compositions* entered into

Appx. 25

Scrip. x., 1999.

within a century, one by Archbishop Richard and Abbot Roger, and another by Archbishop Edmund and Abbot Robert, and he accepts the statement, made in the petition sent to him by the abbey, that from the first foundation this monastery has been exempt from *ordinary jurisdiction*; and then, asserting that the Archbishops have encroached upon this privilege, and that the *compositions* were unjust to the abbey, he restates and widens the old exemption from episcopal control. The Chapter of St. Augustine's had formerly asserted that they and their monastery only were exempt from visitation and other episcopal intrusions, but Boniface extends the immunity thus: "ipsos et illud, cum omnibus membris suis, et "ecclesiis, capellis, cenodochiis, hospitalibus, cantariis, "necnon castris, villis, maneriis, domibus, grangiis, et "possessionibus, terris, redditibus, et quibuscumque "bonis ad eos et præfatum monasterium in præsen-"tiarum spectantibus, ac eis quæ . . . . . im-"posterum poterunt adipisci; . . . . . et omnibus "personis sui ordinis et aliis eis subjectis, degenti-"bus in eisdem, ab omni potestate, jurisdictione, sub-"jectione, atque dominio, tam venerabilis fratris nostri "Archiepiscopi et dilectorum filiorum Capituli Can-"tuariensis . . . . . quam aliarum "quarumlibet ecclesiasticarum personarum, absolvi-"mus, exemimus, et perpetuo liberamus," &c. This extension of the limits of the shadow of protection cast by the monastery robbed the Archbishop of his power in a very large proportion of his diocese, and was necessarily resisted. In the Archbishop's appeal to the Curia, he complains that Boniface's privilege was obtained by a fraudulent representation that the exemption already existed. He adds that the Abbot and Chapter have since the granting of the privilege actually instituted to all the churches of which they owned the patronage, where formerly they presented clerks for institution to the Archbishop; that they exact an oath of canonical obedience

Reg. I., 216.

from the priests ministering in these parishes ; and that they prohibit their clergy from joining in the Whitsun processions. Finally, he asserts that the Abbots of Westminster, Waltham, and St. Edmund's, who were by the bull appointed conservators of the liberties of St. Augustine's, have acted oppressively towards him. At this time he suspended the rectors and vicars of the churches on behalf of whom the abbey claimed these privileges, and thereupon these clergy also appealed to Rome.

In March 1303, the Pope, having heard and weighed the arguments on both sides, delivered his final sentence, which he published under the title of "Declaratio pri- "vilegii monasterio Sancti Augustini (dudum) dati." By this explanation he minimises the privileges of exemption conferred three years before, and decrees that in all churches and parishes where the abbey has only the right of presentation the Archbishop shall have the privilege of institution ; and in the other churches which are *appropriated* to the abbey the Abbot and Chapter shall have the enjoyment of the temporals, but the Archbishop shall exercise spiritual jurisdiction. Moreover he commands that the rectors and vicars of all churches in the patronage of the abbey shall pay all due honour and reverence to the Archbishop, in the ringing of bells when he passes through the parish, in joining in public processions, and in all other accustomed ways. Reg. I., 247.

In this same month of March the Archbishop forbade the Prior of Christ Church to communicate chrism to St. Augustine's, but this order was probably given before the Pope's favourable sentence reached England.

The dispute with Archbishop Winchelsey is not again mentioned in the Christ Church records ; but according to Thorn, who held a brief for St. Augustine's, the Archbishop's suspension and citation to the Curia in 1305 were due to the action of the Chapter of the abbey ; and not prompted, as other historians report, by the desire of

Clement V. to conciliate the King of England, whose subject he had been when Archbishop of Bordeaux. After this, says Thorn: "the Archbishop left the monastery at peace," implying that being well beaten he surrendered; but it is rather to be believed that, having obtained the Pope's "declaration," by which all the new usurpations of the "privilegium" of 1300 were practically annulled, the Archbishop had no further cause to move in the business. Thorn's *animus* in this affair is shown by the bitter words with which he ends his narrative of the humiliation of the Archbishop when he submitted himself to the King's mercy in 1305: "Sic "ergo humiliatus est ille Deo odibilis et superbus, qui "per totum Anglorum orbem oris sui flatu, more me-"tricio, et sacerdotium deturpavit et clerum, et in "populo tirannidem exercuit inauditum."

Scrip. x., 2004.

Scrip. x. 2005.

The dispute, after this solemn decree of Pope Boniface, lay dormant for 20 years, and only revived in 1329, when Archbishop Meopham in his visitation required the Chapter of the abbey to produce the evidences and papal Bulls, by virtue of which they received the revenues of many churches in the diocese, which they asserted were *appropriated* to their house. The proceedings which followed Archbishop Simon's attempt to investigate the title deeds of the Abbey gave rise to retaliation and ended with his complete defeat, whilst his adversaries made a pitiless use of their victory. As in this case the monastery won the field and carried off all the spoils, the narrative of their advocate Thorn may, without suspicion, be accepted as true. He says that the Archbishop cited the Abbot and his Chapter to show by what right they asserted that the churches had been by competent authority granted to them in *proprios usus*, and when they refused to appear he pronounced them contumacious, but reserved his sentence; thereupon the Chapter of St. Augustine's appealed to the Pope, who appointed his Nuntius in England, Icherius de

Concoreto, canon of Sarum, to judge and decide the cause. The Archbishop objected to the judge, as one having a bias in favour of his opponents, and complained of a breach of parliamentary privilege. Early in 1330 the Proctor of the abbey, strongly supported, going to the archiepiscopal manor of Slindon in Sussex, to cite the Archbishop to appear before the judge, found the great hall thronged with armed servants, who forcibly ejected him, wounded one of his followers, and tortured and imprisoned another. The Archbishop, in a solemn instrument, protested that he had no share in this outrage, and procured eight bishops as witnesses to speak to his character, who testified that for 30 years they had known him to be: "honestæ conversationis et bene "morigeratus, modestus atque mansuetus, humilis et bene-"volus." The Archbishop of Aquino was commissioned to investigate, at Rome, the facts of Archbishop Simon's complicity, and, when by him he was pronounced to be guilty, he was excommunicated. In the meantime the judge in England again cited the Archbishop to appear before him, and on his refusal to do so he was declared to be contumacious, and was therefore condemned; costs to the amount of 1,210*l.* being awarded to St. Augustine's, the penalty for non-payment being the usual sentence of excommunication. Three years after, in October 1333, Archbishop Meopham died; the costs being unpaid he was therefore still entangled in the sentence of excommunication, and in consequence the privilege of Christian burial in his cathedral was denied to him; but ultimately his corpse was absolved by Abbot Poucyn of St. Augustine's, and then only he was finally interred in a tomb which his executors, with the consent of the Prior and Chapter of Christ Church, had prepared for him. Now, Abbot Thomas (Poucyn) did not attain his high office until March 1334, and therefore the Archbishop's body must have remained "inhumatum sed non sepulturæ "traditum" for five months. Several of the steps in

this narrative can be traced in the letters, in which the details are multiplied, but in which also, it must be confessed, many important points are passed over in silence.

The Prior of Christ Church was evidently a man with more foresight than the Archbishop; and also he must at some time have found that the result of a lawsuit is not all clear gain even to the winner, for (p. 312) he advises the Archbishop to procure absolution from an excommunication which the latter can hardly believe to be more than a form; and again (p. 333) he recommends him, in this case of St. Augustine's Abbey, to come to a friendly compromise rather than appeal to the Curia: "considerantes quod strepitus judiciales et "litigia in suprema Curia Ecclesiæ militantis ambigua, "tædiosa, et onerosa incomparabiliter magis sunt quam "solebant. Quia lites quandoque in dicta Curia mor-"tificatæ, plerumque respirant, et fiunt sæpius im-"mortales."

Liveries. "Liberatio = Livrée = Livery. Quicquid in pecunia, "vel cibo et potu, vel vestimentis a domino domes-"ticis suis aut officialibus, quotannis, vel certis ac "definitis anni tempestatibus, liberatur" (Ducange). In Christ Church *corrodium* was the name generally applied to a daily supply of food, which, together with lodging, was assigned for one cause or another to certain laymen attached to the convent; *liberatio* stood for an allowance of any kind, as is affirmed by Ducange; and *pensio* was of course a stated sum of coined money paid by way of stipend. The *liberatio panni* was a burdensome branch of these gratuities, and is the only one in which the old name has survived to the present day—the *domesticus* still wears the *livery* (*liberatio panni*) of his *dominus*.

It was the custom at the Canterbury Monastery to distribute every summer a certain number of yards of cloth of various degrees of fineness, to be made into livery gowns for the retainers of the convent, from the

Seneschal who was a knight if not a noble, down to the valecti—the "gromes or knavys"—in the stable-yard. These costly, and regularly recurring gratuities, furnish an annual paragraph in the Treasurer's accounts, from which it may be seen how onerous this charge must have been. In the typical case here selected (45) we find that two entire pieces of cloth—*entire cloths* in the phrase of the time—were required for "gentlemen;" the retainers of that rank being (App. 50) the High Steward and his clerk, the Physician (who had also a stipend of 5*l.*), and the Prior's Notary, "as by right;" and four other persons "as by favour." Each of these two cloths had a market value of 7*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*, and with the other cloths of which samples were asked for in the letter made up a total cost of 45*l.* By multiplying this sum by 24 we shall probably arrive at the equivalent in modern money, and thus we find that the summer distribution of complimentary livery gowns cost the convent a sum which would be equal to 1,080*l.* in our own days.

From other sources we learn that the receivers of gowns "de gratia," as the list in the Appendix has it, were usually the two or three standing counsel of the Monastery, whose salutary advice was secured by an annual retaining fee or *pensio*, and a gown once a year.

The custom of entertaining a regiment of followers, all clad in one uniform, and pledged to back each other in all quarrels and acts of violence, had early attracted the attention of the Government, owing to the unbounded power for evil which it placed in the hands of anyone who had enough money or influence to enable him to entertain a following sufficiently numerous to overawe a neighbourhood. This backing of each other by the confederates was, under the name of *maintenance*, first made a penal offence by the statute 1*st Richard II. cap.* 7, confirmed 1*st Hen. IV. cap.* 7. By these Acts of Parliament the giving of liveries, for maintenance, is forbidden to anyone except the Sovereign, whose

soldiers then, as now, were privileged to wear the royal uniform. Prelates and nobles were permitted to distribute clothing, as long as they confined the distribution "a ses "menialx et officers, et ceux qui sont de son conseil sibien "spirituelx come temporelx"; that is to say, as long as the liveries were not given for the purpose of maintenance. Henry de Valoignes, who kept one of these riotous households at Swardling near Canterbury, had in 1324 made himself thereby so obnoxious to his neighbours, that the Prior of Christ Church sent him a letter of reproof and remonstrance; there being as yet no formal statute by
128. which he could be coerced into leaving his riotous courses. The Chapter of Christ Church must have regretted that the law did not absolutely forbid the distribution of liveries even to counsel and menials, for, by the prohibition, they would have saved a notable yearly sum. The statute of Richard especially mentions that it was usual to have the liveries *all of one suit*, as tending to bind the illegal confederacies together, by enabling the members to identify each other. The convent of Christ Church certainly did not offend against this clause, for the broad stripes of fine colour and the medley cloths of the specifications, indicate a diversity of costume hardly to be looked for on the backs of the sober retainers of a monastery of Black Monks.

The prices paid for these cloths are astonishingly high, seeing that a gown was only expected to last a year. A clerk's (gentleman's) suit is quoted at seventy-four shillings and fourpence for the piece of twenty-four yards; that is to say (assuming that in the first half of the 14th century one pound would purchase as much as twenty-four pounds will do in the present day), one yard of the cloth given to the chief officers of the monastery used to cost the Chapter three pounds fourteen and fourpence, and even the meanest servants were clad at the expense of two pounds a yard.

Sandwich, 26. The name of the ancient town of Sandwich, which from time immemorial had belonged to the monastery of

Christ Church, occurs constantly in this volume; but as the history is here taken up just after the transfer of the port with its customs from the monastery to the Crown, it is necessary to explain the connexion which, during several earlier centuries, existed between the convent and the seaport.

In A.D. 966 Eadgar by charter restored and confirmed to Archbishop Dunstan and the church of Canterbury all their rights at Sandwich, including both those which at that date they still possessed, and also those which at some previous time had been taken from them. In A.D. 1023 the convent had apparently again been despoiled of some or all of its rights in the port; and Cnut, present in person at Christ Church, gave (or restored) to it the harbour with all its customs and dues, the exclusive privilege of ferrying passengers across the river in the "vere-boats," and all the wharfs and warehouses necessary for exercising its rights; confirming the grant and giving to it a ceremonial solemnity by, with his own hands, lifting his golden crown from his head and offering it upon the high altar of the Cathedral. Reg. B. 170.

Sandwich (as the successor of the Roman Ritupiæ whose ruins still crown the low sand hill near the town), being the chief English port through which trade was carried on with the Continent, produced a considerable revenue from the duties levied upon imported goods, sufficient to tempt the cupidity of Odo the Bishop and Earl, who, ousting the monks, seized the port soon after the Norman Conquest. Odo's enjoyment of his usurped possession was but of short duration, for, in consequence of pressure put upon him by Archbishop Lanfranc, he made a complete restitution to the monastery of the town and the port with its profits, the King confirming the act of his half-brother. Henry I. by charter firmly re-established the monastery in its regained rights, and Henry II. confirmed all these rights in the terms of his grandfather's charter. Reg. B. 170.

Reg. B. 170. In A.D. 1227 it was evidently felt that the monks of Christ Church were exercising something like sovereign powers on this frontier port of England, and therefore an inquisition was directed by the Crown to be held to inquire what duties could by custom be legally collected at the port. The inquest of twenty-four jurors, of whom twelve nominated by the Crown were selected from the garrison of Dover Castle, found that the monastery was legally in possession of the right to levy duties upon imports; but the record has no schedule attached specifying what those duties were. A tariff in use in later days is printed in Boys' History of Sandwich.

Appx. 51. At the end of the 15th century Edward I. seeing that it was inexpedient that so important a naval station, and possible arsenal, should be in the hands of a religious corporation, made proposals for an exchange of the customs dues and the control of the harbour, offering in lieu of them to convey to the convent as much real estate in the county of Kent as would yield sixty pounds of annual rent. At this time, Christmas 1290, Queen Eleanor gave to the monastery the manors of West Farleigh and Teston, together with the advowsons of the churches of Westerham and Westcliff near Dover, and an acre of land dependent upon each church; and at the same time the King granted a license permitting the convent to endeavour to obtain from the ecclesiastical powers concerned the *appropriation* of the churches, the recently enacted statute *de religiosis* notwithstanding; and hereupon the monks conveyed all their interest in the port to Queen Eleanor for life with remainder to the right heirs of the Crown of England. This gift and license seem to have been reckoned as worth thirty pounds a year, for after the date there is no more question of a rent of sixty pounds, the consideration stated in the agreement, but the amount still remaining unsecured to Christ Church is always put at thirty pounds, as though the other moiety of the purchase money had been provided for. About this remaining thirty pounds there was

Reg. I. 136.

Reg. B. 171.

some difficulty, which however was overcome for a time when the King in A.D. 1292, in the first place charged that amount annually upon Queen Eleanor's manor of Westcliff, and afterwards in A.D. 1299 pledged the manor itself to the convent for six years, at a rent of forty pounds, of which thirty were to be *allowed* at pay day in the Royal Exchequer. It was understood at the time that this mortgage should be renewable until such time as the convent were put into possession in fee of real estate of equivalent value within the county of Kent. Reg. I. 137. I. 140.

In A.D. 1301 the King granted Westcliff to his second Queen, Margaret, and as he had no land within the county available for discharging his debt to Christ Church and redeeming the mortgage of the manor, he persuaded the Chapter to accept the manor of Borley in Essex, estimated as worth forty pounds a year, out of which ten pounds annually were assigned to the Earl Marshal.

It is to this point that the history of Sandwich has reached when the letters of the present volume take it up. At the time when Queen Eleanor conveyed the manors and the two churches to Christ Church no *consideration* for the grants appears on the face of the deeds, the premises being ostensibly conferred in pure alms; but seeing that the grants were exactly contemporaneous with the transfer of the profits of Sandwich to the Queen for her life, it may be reasonably inferred that the Queen's grants were really the equivalents of thirty pounds of rent; that is to say, of half the purchase money of the port. The profits and privileges resigned by the monks when they surrendered Sandwich are stated in the *forma escambii*, in the appendix, and there it will be seen that the monastery had held a position and exercised powers similar to those of the seaboard nobles of the Continent, the Counts of Boulogne, Flanders, St. Valery, &c., who taxed at discretion all passengers and goods which crossed their bounds; Appx. 51.

thus exercising an *imperium in imperio* which could not but be distasteful to Edward I., who was just consolidating a strong central authority.

It will be seen that the monks retained all their land and houses in the town, and only resigned the tribute, which they exacted from merchants frequenting the port by virtue of Cnut's grant. Of their property thus retained there were three items from which they continued to earn an income until the dissolution of the monastery; these were their wharf; the warehouses enclosing it; and the crane erected upon it for loading and unloading ships, the whole forming an estate locally known as "Monken Key," the value of which is demonstrated by copious accounts still extant.

Corrodies. Liberatio Thomæ de Cotyngg, 47.

"*Conredium* = *Corrodium*, Bona quævis quæ ad victum, vestitum, cultumve inserviunt." The Prior and Chapter of Christ Church were accustomed from an early period to assign pensions to laymen, who, whether as legal or medical advisers or as patrons having court influence, had been useful to them in the past, or who were likely to be so in the future; even granting a right to demand food and lodging within the monastic precincts to some of these who, in order to have personal communication with their clients, found it expedient to reside occasionally in Canterbury. This board and lodging was known indifferently by the name of *Corrody*, or sometimes of *liberatio*, but the latter term included not only this special kind of grant, but in fact every kind of allowance made at the expense of the Chapter—beer, candles, horse-keep—and above all cloth for gowns.

At least as early as the beginning of the 14th century, it appears that in addition to the occasional residence within the precincts which the convent afforded to its legal advisers, it was in the habit of granting corrodies for life to its deserving officers, who had served it long and well, or who, wishing to retire from the active practice of their professions, were glad to accept these

favours, entitling them as quasi-monks to enjoy the peace of monastic seclusion without submitting themselves to the restraints of irrevocable vows. In other cases, the concession of a corrody was a mere matter of business; for some instances are found where a layman, on paying a certain sum of ready money, was admitted for life to the same privileges as the meritorious officers above mentioned. The *liberatio* made to the holder of Reg. S. 7.
a corrody varied much according to his rank. In one case, to William Selkyndenne (who had board in the monastery, but lodged in the town) an allowance was assigned described as: "corrodium unius monachi; videlicet, cotidie duos panes, videlicet, unum panem pastus et alterum panem vocatum *smalpais;* et unam jous-tam cerevisiæ melioris novæ, temporibus quibus cerevisia nostra portabitur ad celarium; unum ferculum coquinæ, scilicet *mes* et *intermes* carnium et piscium cum potagio, secundum quod tempus expostulaverit, sicut uni monacho ex nostris, in *Mensa Magistri*[1] ad prandium diatim servietur. Concessimus eciam . . . . . duas carectatas lingni, vocati *stombel*, annuatim liberandas . . . . . infra Civitatem Cantuariam ubicumque idem Willelmus . . . . . præmuniverit." In another instance, where the recipient was a *clericus*, and apparently one of high rank, he dined at the Prior's table, and was allowed *commons* and horsefeed for a gentleman, a valet, and a groom, his attendants.

In the course of time, the Kings of England, probably Reg. S. 43.
beginning by giving superfluous recommendatory letters to the persons upon whom the Chapter spontaneously conferred corrodies, acquired a habit of asking for such favours; and in time of nominating a successor whenever

[1] The *Mensa Magistri* was the dining hall of the Infirmary, where liberal diet was served to convalescents, and to those monks who in turn enjoyed *deportum* (Ital. *diporto*), a periodical relaxation of the *regula* as to diet.

the death of a holder of a corrody caused a vacancy. The letter at the head of this article shows that, before A.D. 1318, Edward II. had obtained a grant of this kind for one Cotyngg, and that when Cotyngg died the King, as a matter of course, nominated John Griffon to fill his place. The Chapter protested in vain against this intrusion; for Griffon obtained the *corrody* and enjoyed it for 20 years; and, when he in his turn died, Edward III., believing that the appointment legally vested in the Crown, nominated one of his warders (vigil=gayte=wait) to fill the vacancy.

At this time the Chapter, seeing that what they had once conceded as a favour, was beginning to be assumed as a right, again protested, weakly pleading their impoverished condition as a reason for not complying with the King's request. Having thus relinquished their strong position, namely, that the Crown had no kind of right to meddle with the distribution of these favours; and by their plea of temporary poverty having, by implication, admitted that in more prosperous times the King might claim the privilege of nomination, the convent could hardly wonder if, for some time to come, there were two corrodies continually supplied with occupants by royal patronage. Richard II. continued the system of his grandfather, but the Chapter at last induced him to renounce his claim in this respect, and in recompense they agreed to celebrate certain religious offices for his spiritual benefit; selecting the two festivals of St. Edmund the King in each year as the appropriate days for the performance of their promise.

A more dignified provision of this nature, differing in degree rather than in kind, was offered, of course for a competent consideration, to lodgers of a higher rank. In this case a handsome mansion, capable of accommodating a considerable train of servants and forming a part of the group of monastic buildings, was leased for a term or for life to the patron who had acquired, by

whatever means, sufficient influence with the Chapter to induce them to concede the privilege. The first eminent tenant of this mansion whose name occurs in the records was John Bokyngham, Bishop of Lincoln, who, in 1397, sick and near his end, executed his will in this house, which had evidently been lent as a place of rest and retirement for his last days. Cart. Ant. W. 220.

Rather more than fifty years later, this same mansion, which in the lease is described as "mansum *Meister* "*Omeris* antiquitus vocatum, a modernis *Le Cardinallys* "*Place* nuncupatum," was demised for the term of his life to Edmund Duke of Somerset, in consideration of his goodwill to the church (ob complacenciam dominacionis suæ), no rent being exacted, but the tenant undertaking to keep the place in repair. It may be surmised that Somerset, having seen his rival the Duke of York set at liberty after he had arrested him with his own hand, was disgusted with politics, and desired to withdraw to a peaceful retreat in the precincts of the Canterbury Monastery; but there is no reason to believe that he ever came into actual residence in his palatial hermitage. The Chapter undertook to nearly rebuild the house, in order to make it worthy of its almost royal tenant, but before the alterations could possibly have been made the tenant was again in the throng of politics, acting as chief leader of the Lancastrian party; and eventually in 1455 all question of retirement was set at rest by his death in the first battle of St. Albans.

The name of this mansion once more appears in history at the end of the momentous year 1470, when Edward IV., after reigning nine years, became a fugitive, and then in a few months returned to be a final victor. At this time, whilst Tewkesbury field was being fought, Warwick's fleet under Faulconbridge came to Sandwich and landed troops, who were intended to press on to interpose between Edward and his capital. At this time the Yorkist faction in the city of Canterbury endeavoured

to bar out the advancing Admiral, by walling up that gate of their fortifications which looked towards the south-east. This is proved by an entry in the accounts of the Chamberlain of the city, where a sum of tenpence halfpenny is charged "pro cariagio novem magnorum lapidum a quodam loco vocato *Maister Omers* usque Redyngate." That is to say, some of the ashlar blocks left over from the Somerset restoration of the mansion were contributed by the Chapter for blocking the most vulnerable part of the fortifications of the city; which were at the same time the bulwarks of the convent. It may be mentioned that these precautions were unavailing. A strong body of Lancastrian citizens, headed by the mayor, admitted Faulconbridge, and, still led by the mayor, marched to Blackheath, where they were dispersed by the Duke of Gloucester, who hanged the mayor and sent his quarters to Canterbury *in terrorem* —charging the expense of the execution upon the citizens.

The odd name of this mansion has nothing mysterious about it; although it has given rise to a good deal of etymological speculation. Magister Homerus or Omerus —Maister Omer—was clerk to the Prior of Christ Church about the middle of the 13th century, and for an official residence (as he was not a monk) he had a camera with, of course its [illegible] and [illegible] assigned to him within the precincts, and here he kept some of the records and accounts upon which he worked; the camera grew in after times into a *mansum* on the same site but still preserved its old name; the Camera Magistri Omeri becoming in the vernacular Maister Omer's.

Reg. H. addl. ff.

Diceto, and after him Matthew Paris, relate how in August 1179, Louis VII., who had intimately known and favoured Archbishop Becket in his lifetime, determined nine years after his death to visit his relics in pilgrimage; taking at the same time the opportunity of seeing the island ruled by his great rival and neighbour of

The Wine of St. Thomas, 54.

Diceto 1, 433.

Normandy and Anjou; a land "quam nec ipse nec "suorum aliquis antecessorum aliquo tempore, vel "hostili manu vel ingressu pacifico, visitaverat." A chronicle of the abbey of St. Denys, quoted by the Rev. Lambert Larking in the fourth volume of the Archæologia Cantiana, adorns this narrative by the addition of some miraculous details. Paris 11, 309. Gervase 1, 293.

When Henry II. heard of this unexpected visit he hastened to Dover, and meeting Louis at the moment of disembarkation he made him and his followers welcome. Archbishop Richard and all the prelates who could be assembled in haste formed a grand procession, and received the French King at the door of the Cathedral Church of Canterbury, where he remained for three days occupied in fasts, prayers, and vigils, and then before departing he and his followers made offerings and distributed gifts so lavishly, that the chronicler declines to report the amount thus given, asserting that it was so large as to be incredible. The King's oblation at the tomb of the Martyr consisted of a valuable cup of gold, and a charter by which he granted, in the names of himself and his successors for ever, a hundred modii (muys) of wine annually, to be received by the agent of the monks at Paris, and to be collected from the vineyards at Poissy, a royal domain near Paris. His son Philip (Augustus), for whose benefit according to the chronicle of St. Denys the father's pilgrimage was undertaken, confirmed the previous charter when it was just a year old; but he directed that the wine should be collected at Triel; and to his charter he attached an order addressed to his Provost at Poissy requiring him to collect as much as he could of the wine at Triel, and if there were any deficiency in the quantity to supply it from the royal cellar at the castle of Poissy. The grant was again confirmed by St. Louis in 1235, who, still farther extending the vineyards from which the wine was to be supplied, added Cantelupe to the list; and again, thirty Cart. Ant. F. 90. Cart. Ant. F. 92, 94. Cart. Ant. F. 99. Cart. Ant. F. 101.

years after, he re-affirmed the grant, and conceded as a farther privilege, that this wine, and every other species of food or drink required for the use of the monastery of Christ Church, should be passed through the land and across the frontiers free of all customs dues; this latter concession being ratified by all the Counts through whose counties the wine would have to pass on its way to its destination. To prevent smuggling under pretext of this privilege, the King required that to entitle them to a free pass all such provisions must be claimed on oath by at least one monk of Canterbury, or by a lawfully accredited agent, who should declare that the goods were intended for the use of their convent and not for that of any other person.

Cart. Ant. F. 149, As soon as Philip IV., ascended the throne (probably prompted by a petition sent from Canterbury) he recited his grandfather's charter and added a few lines confirming all its clauses; and the same course was followed by Charles IV. in his first year. An interval of a century and a half then intervened during which the wine was as often withheld as given, the constant wars between the giving and the receiving countries accounting for the interruptions. From time to time during this long period, when there was a lull in hostilities, petitions in favour of the monastery were presented to the King of France, by the hands of members of the Royal Family or of such other influential persons as the monks could enlist as their advocates. In some instances, during the 14th and 15th centuries, these petitions obtained a favourable answer, and then agents were appointed, authorised to claim the wine and to sell it; and bound to remit the purchase money to Canterbury after having deducted their commission.

Reg. L. 95. An instance of this process can be traced in these letters under the date 1367, where the Abbot of St. Denys is begged to entertain and assist the Prior's

messenger; one of his monks, who has received favours from the Chapter of Canterbury, is asked to forward the business; and the King of France is petitioned to renew the delivery of the wine which has been intermitted for at least ten years. After these petitions the register contains copies of all the most important royal charters relating to the wine, duplicates of which, certified by a notary, were sent with the petition, to prove the title of the monks, which might be supposed to have passed out of memory by the lapse of time, and so become liable to challenge. It must be noticed that in this instance, although the petitions here mentioned (which are undated) are entered in the register under the year 1367, the originals from which they were copied cannot possibly have borne that date; for in the first place they speak of a ten years interruption to the delivery of the wine caused by war, just at the very time that the treaty of Bretigny had ensured a seven years peace; and again the King invoked is a Philip, really Philip VI., who had died nearly twenty years before. The solution of this riddle is not difficult. There were, probably, in 1367 some arrears of the wine, and there were certainly threatenings of a renewal of the war between the countries, which induced the Prior to make a hasty snatch at his wine before the bursting of the war-cloud. Hereupon he caused copies of the last correspondence of the kind, when the circumstances were somewhat similar, to be made in the registers, and then *mutatis mutandis* he sent off his duplicates to France. Several other instances similar to the above will be found occurring here and there in these volumes. As the records printed in the present volume do not carry the history of the wine beyond the first half of the 14th century, it will be proper to reserve for another portion of this introduction the narrative of how an application for a renewal of the ancient charter was made to Louis XI. and how it was answered, until the men who were active in pushing this

application have introduced themselves by specimens of their correspondence.

The agent of Christ Church who resided at Paris was, when England and France were at peace, a permanent officer on the staff of the monastery; he was reckoned to hold the rank of a gentleman, and as such was annually supplied with a livery gown of the finest quality. He was remunerated for his pains by a commission which he deducted from the purchase money of the wine, the amount being limited by his own conscience and discretion—"voillez prendre pur voz despenses faites " pur noz busoignes ceo qe il vous plerra." The actual dispatch of the cloth for the gown is once announced in a form which shows that the presentation was periodical: " Et le drap est aseale de nostre prive seal al un " chef et a lautre; et de pelure vous purveeyez si- " come vous soliez faire, et nous allouerοms a vous " le pris bonement en vostre acunte." At least one of these agents—Monsire Johan de Launge—whose name appears frequently in these letters—wrote himself *Chivaller,* and was attached to the household of Queen Isabella during her stay in France in the years 1325–6. He probably owed his preferment in the service of the Canterbury Monastery to the influence which he could bring to bear on his mistress, and through her on the court of France. By putting together the hints scattered through the letters, it will be seen that Launge's duty required him to demand and receive the wine from the Provost of Poissy, to sell it on the spot at the best price he could obtain, and to hand over the purchase money at once to a *merchant,* that is to say a banker, in Paris, receiving from him a draft on his London correspondent payable to the order of the Prior of Canterbury. The failure to perform these duties, leading to reproofs on one side and excuses on the other, produced a correspondence filling a considerable space in this collection. Robert de Lonjumeau, who was Launge's predecessor, and who died

leaving his account unbalanced, often wrote letters of explanation, some of which are still in existence, from which may be gathered an idea of the difficulties which the convent experienced, and the plunder from which it suffered through having to trust its affairs to a, personally, unknown agent in a distant country. A typical example written by this Lonjumeau, a Frenchman, is subjoined in order to give an opportunity for comparing the everyday French of Paris with that of London.

A son trechier seignour noble home religious Priour de Cantuarbire, saluz. Je vous faz asavoir, qe je nai encore resceu pour vous de tote cete anne de vo chosis qe dix livres parisis. Je vendi vo vins a un home de Poisi pour xv livres parisis, hastivement, pour ce qe je avoie pouour (peur) qe Le Roy le prist; quar il prist quantque il pureit trovoir pour mener en Flandris. Et il furent devenuz touz cras et en mavois point, quar le vins de cete anne ne hout rein valu; et si a Misire Charleis comande au tresureres qe je fuse poie (payé), mes il dient qe il nont dener de queis apres la guere de Flandris. Et ce que je ai baille a Mestre Johan de Winchilse je la baille de mon argent pres tout. Mandez moi combien vous avez receu de Mestre Johan de Winchilse partout. Et me envoiez copie de ma lettre qe je vous envoiai dernierement par Guilleaume son esquier, pour les parties et le conte qe fut escrit dedeinz, quar je ai perdu ma bourse; le m(esm)e parties furent [ceux] qe je contai devoir Guilleaume son esquier; et si vous esties poie de lui ou non. Deux vous gart. par robert de longemel vostre sergant."

The annual value of this wine can be gathered from the Treasurer's accounts of the monastery, which are extant for 67 years between 1277 and 1383. These show that during that time the average clear profit to the monastery from this source was 7*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.*; the sum is stated in pounds, shillings, and pence rather than in muys and tuns, because the produce came to Canterbury in coin and not in kind. The monks knowing that so small a wine would not *travel*, as the wine-merchants say, always sold it on the spot, and no record remains to show that the wine itself ever once came to England. The above stated average is probably higher than it would be if all the accounts had been preserved; but there is a gap including, about 40 years of the

reign of Edward III., during which time there is little doubt that the annual entry would often have appeared under the form: "hoc anno nichil propter "guerram." In a letter addressed by the Prior to the agent in A.D. 1317, among other calculations, the following appear:—

Cart. Ant. F. 60.

> Sachez . . . . . que les cent muys de vin qe le Roi de France dona a Saint Thomas, jadys par son privilege, solum la mesure de Parys, ne amontent solum la mesure a Triel et a Poysi fors xlvij muys et demy; et deux muys et demy font un tonel. Item . . . . . vous avez vendu cinq tonels et une cue de noz vins de Triel pur xlix. livres x. souds parisis, prys del tonel neuf livres; et la cue iiij. livres et demy de Paris, la summe de la mesme amonte xiij. muys et demy et la quarte partie de un muy. Item: Le Roy de France nous deit lxx. livres parisis pur xxviij. muys de vyns, qe nous faillent cest an de nostre rente de Triel, pris del muy cinquante soudz parisis.

From this it would appear that the wine sold for about three halfpence a gallon, equivalent, perhaps, to half a crown of modern currency. This appears a high price for an inferior beverage.

Of the inferior quality of this wine nevertheless there can be no question, grown as it was in the latitude of Paris, where the climate is not favourable to the cultivation of the grape; but as to the quantity, it has been stated in print that it is not possible to ascertain how much these hundred muys amounted to, and therefore it will be well to quote a table of the local wine measures in terms of which the monks kept their reckonings of this particular growth of wine; for in calculating the prices and quantities of other wines, of which they purchased considerable quantities every year, they reckoned by casks and pipes (dolia, pipæ) the tonel and its subdivisions not being mentioned.

CERTA MENSURA DE VINIS NOSTRIS FRANCLÆ.

Reg. J. 376.

> A Parys deux pintes funt une quarte, et quatre quartes funt un sester, xvj. sesters funt un mu, et sept mus funt un tonel. Ici ke cent mus funt xvj. (xiv. ?) tonels et quatre (deux ?) mus
> xx
> Ici ke iiij. xvj. (cxij. ?) sesters funt un tonel.

A Seint Denys pintes, quartes, sesters cum a Parys. Et xiiij. sesters funt le mu, et quartre mus le tonel. Ici ke cent mus funt xxv. tonels.

A Seint Brice memes la mesure.

A Pontoise (Poisi ?) pintes, quartes, sesters cum a Parys, mes xxiiij. sesters funt le mu; et deux mus et demi le tonel. Ici ke cent mus funt xl. tonels.

A Triel pintes, quartes, sesters, et les mus cum a Seint Denys. Et quartre mus funt le tonel. Ici ke cent mus de la mesure de Triel, ky contienent M[l]M[l] et cccc sesters, funt xxv. tonels.

Ici ke cent mus de la mesure de Parys ne vegneut fors ke xlvij. (sic.) mus et demy de la mesure de Poisi et de Triel, et deux mus et demy funt le tonel. Ici ke cent mus de la mesure de Parys funt xiv. tonels de la mesure de Poisi et de Triel.

This rather puzzling set of calculations, in which the calculator himself went astray, was evidently drawn up by a Treasurer who thought the monastery was in some way aggrieved by the use of the muy of Paris rather than that of Triel. It is probable that he had never seen the original grant wherein the use of muy of Paris is prescribed with an evident knowledge of its proportion to that of Triel. But this question is not important, seeing that pintes, quartes, and gallons (sextarii) are still quite familiar to us, and still bear the same proportions to each other; so that if we may assume that the pint--the unit--did not vary greatly from the modern pint; and seeing that the muy contained sixteen gallons, each gallon being equal to eight pints, then the whole grant of the king amounted to 1,600 gallons, or fourteen hogsheads of a hundred and twelve gallons each and a "queue" of two muys.

The convent possessed a small vineyard of their own at St. Brice, on the western side of Paris, and the *serviens* who collected the wine of St. Thomas superintended this little property also. The donor of this estate was Richolda wife of Guido de Groolai, whose original grant has perished, but a certificate, testifying to its existence, bearing the seal of Peter de Nemours Bishop of Paris (and dated 1211), gives the impression that at the date of the certificate, the gift was a recent one.

The deposition of Edward II., 145.

As is stated above, Archbishop Raynold founded a part of his hope of weathering the political storm which ended in the deposition of Edward II. upon the great experience and supposed tactical sagacity of Henry of Eastry, the Prior of Christchurch at the date. How far this hope was justified may be judged from the analysis of the Prior's letters given below. It will be seen, that if the letters add no new facts to the narrative of the chronicles, they display the inmost private opinions on the matter of the revolution, and the attitude taken, by the two most prominent churchmen of the day; one being at the head of the secular clergy, and the other in the very front rank of the rulers of the *regulars*. It is not necessary here to recall the successive stages of the rebellion, which are matters of common knowledge. Adam of Murimuth among the chroniclers has left an especially clear narrative of the events of the years 1324 to 1327, and, as he was a contemporary of the scenes which he describes and a public character mixing with the great world, it is certain that he had every opportunity for observing the course of events, that his evidence is given at first hand, and is in all respects trustworthy. By reference to his chronicle the various allusions contained in these letters will be readily understood. The letters in this present volume begin on:—

146. *Feb.* 8, 1325, when the Queen was preparing to go over sea, and it was proposed that the Archbishop should go with her. On this occasion the Despensers had offended the Queen by depriving her of the services of some large part of her *familia*. The Prior recommends that the Queen should be accompanied by her *consuetus et nobilis apparatus ac etiam solita comitiva utriusque sexus*. The Archbishop is warned that the Count of Boulogne is in the habit of levying enormous *customs* upon every Archbishop of Canterbury on the occasion of his first landing at Wissant, and the wily Prior hints to

the Archbishop *ea occasione habebitis colorem excusandi vos ab hujusmodi itinere arripiendo.*

6 *Mar.* 1326. After the Queen has been abroad a whole year and more, the Prior complains of the expense of the keep of her pack of hounds, which, when she went over sea, she left in his charge, evidently not expecting that her stay would be as long, or the results of the journey so momentous, as they proved to be in the event. 168, 171, 172.

12 *March* 1326. Hopes of peace were entertained from the mission of the Cardinal Bishops of Albano and Palestrina, who had drawn up a form of treaty which the King of France and Queen Isabella had willingly accepted. The Nuntii proposed to come to England, and it was hoped that to the King of England also the treaty would be acceptable. When the Queen and Prince arrive in England, as it is expected they will soon do, *decet et expedit reverenter occurrere non violenter obsistere,* the Prior writes; but he owns, that if they bring too many followers in their company, it may make the Archbishop's navigation more intricate. Moreover the Pope having decidedly shown himself on the side of the Queen and her brother the King of France, it will not be right (or expedient) to oppose the side which he supports; seeing that such opposition would savour of disrespect to the head of the Church. If the King be too exacting a little disobedience may be tried, for "the commandments of God himself "are not implicitly obeyed, nor can those of man possibly "be so in these days." The Prior thinks that alarming reports of a large French army collected for the invasion of England may be disregarded; inasmuch as the constantly passing travellers would have seen and reported the preparations. A closing of the ports would certainly be the first step, since it would prevent the conveyance of intelligence to the threatened enemy; and this step the Prior thinks might legitimately cause apprehension. He expresses a most unfavourable opinion of the strength 173.

and courage of the men of Kent, and of their will and power to resist invasion, but he thinks that there is little danger that this will take place. The Earl of Kent is reported to have declared himself a neutral in the coming struggle (if one be impending); and the Prior hopes the Archbishop will not compromise him by letting his letter, unsigned though it be, be seen by any other eyes than his own. When the Queen lands (either as returning to her home or as an armed invader) the Archbishop ought to meet her, and by exhortation to bring her to reason. That is to say, without breaking with the King's party, it will be wise to open friendly communications with the other side.

175. 1 *Apil* 1326. The Prior asks a favour at the hands of the elder Despenser, whose patronage he evidently still thinks to be worth soliciting.

180. 19 *May* 1326. The Prior tells Sir Ralph Bassett, Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports and Constable of Dover Castle, that at his request he will do something towards the maintenance of a coastguard, although, as holding all his lands in *franc almoigne,* he is not legally bound to do so.

186. 9 *June* 1326. Invited to visit the Archbishop the Prior pleads his infirmities as an excuse for declining; and so he escapes tête à tête conversations, in the course of which the Archbishop would certainly have exacted advice more definite than that contained in these letters.

181. 12 *June* 1326. A pension of twenty marks granted by Christ Church to Gawein Cordier is taken from him, by royal command, because he is compromised as a declared partizan of the Queen, and the pension is transferred to Peter Bernard, a loyal King's man.

190. 28 *September* 1326. News has just arrived of the Queen's landing in Suffolk at the head of an army of Hainaulters, four days before the date of the letter; and the Archbishop has evidently written in a panic to ask

what it will be safest for him to do; for even yet his mind is not made up as the to side to which he shall adhere. The Prior, feeling quite safe under the shadow of his church, and encircled by the walls of his precinct, which he knows will serve him as impregnable fortifications whichever side may gain the mastery, advises the Archbishop to pose as a mediator, and to exhibit as his credentials certain letters, recommending him to preach peace, which he has received from the Pope.

Following the last letter within a few days, is one 191.
in which the Archbishop is again strongly recommended not to attach himself to either party, even at this acute stage of the crisis, but to assume for himself the privileged position of an ambassador attempting to mediate between belligerents. Above all he is advised to go to the Queen, not as an envoy from the King, but as an independent *ex officio* peacemaker; and after this, if the King should still insist upon fighting, the Prior thinks the Archbishop had better rather *in templo Christi ad arma spiritualia convolare, quam tot et tantorum congressionibus armatorum personaliter interesse.*

At this point the correspondents evidently heard of the influential people who were attaching themselves to the Queen, and thereupon, as the chronicle tells, the Archbishop definitely joined her party; and the Chapter having received orders from her (28 *October* 1326) re- 192.
quiring them to deprive the King's man (Lr. 181) of his goods (and pension), they reply to her most respectfully, and end their letter with: *A Dieu treschere Dame, qi vous donit bone vie et longe, et grace en terre et glorie en ciel.* 198.

December 1326. After this there is no doubt which cause it will be safer to espouse; but still the Prior has some fears if the Prince have again gone abroad —*si ita sit.* He congratulates the Archbishop upon his prompt action, when he saw the way the wind set, in going to meet the Queen, even before he received her letter, summoning him.

199. 3 *Jan.* 1327. When summoned to the Parliament in which it was intended to propose the act of the King's deposition, the Prior excuses himself to the Archbishop, *ex causis necessariis vobis notis*, and sends a proxy, thus once for all washing his hands of a very unpleasant business, but, apparently, one which had not caused him any serious apprehension, or greatly excited his interest.

201. *Jan.* 1327. As it was clearly expedient that the deposition of the King should have the show of a voluntary abdication, the Prior recommends that (as the two Bishops who were sent from the Parliament have failed to induce Edward to leave his prison at Kenilworth), a large committee, comprising representatives of all the estates of the realm, sufficient in number in fact to prove to the King that there was now no King's party left, should go to him, and, for, and with the voice of, the nation, summon him to appear and, as implied, to accept his condemnation.

Jan. 20, 1327. On this day a committee of the Parliament, comprising the very representatives of the several orders in the State recommended by the Prior, did wait upon Edward at Kenilworth; whence it appears, that in this suggestion of the Prior's is to be found the germ of the ceremony which marked the downfall of the King, who, by refusing the solemn summons of the Parliament, put himself outside of the law. It would be a strange piece of secret history if it were shown, after the lapse of so many years, that this elaborate scheme for putting the King in the wrong was conceived, in the seclusion of a remote monastery, by a monk, who recommended the selection of the deputation as a process in a political contest, in which he personally took as little interest as if he were advising only an adroit move in a game at chess. After the last-mentioned date the whole business appeared in the eyes of the Canterbury Prior to be happily settled, and it only remained for the cancellarii of the monastery to post up in their registers, for reference as

historical memoranda, records of some of the public acts which had taken place during the revolution; thus it occurs that we have copies of the oath of allegiance to the Queen and the Prince, and detestation of the Despensers and Baldok; Sir William Trussell's railing speech made when he sentenced the younger Despenser at Hereford; and the form of words in which the same Trussell, as Speaker of the Parliament, renounced allegiance to the dethroned and imprisoned King at Kenilworth. 202. Appx. 75, 76.

The writer of these letters evidently took it for granted that the same motive which drove his own pen was at the same time impelling that of his correspondent; the Prior, that is to say, wished for peace at any price, and he confidently assumed that the Archbishop had no higher aspiration. Patriotism is not even mentioned as a reason for exerting influence on one side or the other. Personal preference for the King or the Queen did not induce the Prior or his correspondent to hope that one rather than the other might be victorious in the struggle which they saw was impending; nor does the Prior seem to have imagined that the Archbishop could have any special affection even for the King who had so long been his pupil, and whose boyhood had been passed and his character formed under his own influence. To each of them the political question and its bearing upon the welfare of the country appear to have been matters of complete indifference; nor is there once any sign of an attempt to weigh and compare the relative merits of the competing parties; expediency alone directed the minds of both the writer and the receiver of the letters. It may be that the Prior's long experience and the Archbishop's more intimate but shorter acquaintance with the tortuous ways of politicians, at a period when ambitious party leaders imagined that the form of the newly moulded, and still plastic, constitution could be modified to suit their purposes, may have generated in both of them a cynical disbelief in the honesty of either faction, and a

determination to use all the influence they possessed with a view to save themselves from worry and spoliation. From personal risk the Prior must have felt himself quite secure; but the Archbishop, with the example of the Bishop of Exeter before him, must have known that, for his part, to enlist on the losing side involved danger to his liberty and not improbably to his life.

The phrases with which the Prior ends his letters: *Istam cedulam non aspiciat oculus alienus—Istam cedulam si placet sub secreto silentio teneatis—Scriptum in nubibus—Lecta littera comburatur*—show his fear of being recognised as the Archbishop's adviser if the correspondence should fall into hostile hands; and explain the cautious manner in which the identity of the writer is so carefully veiled in the style of the letters.

Colepeper's forfeited estate. 91, 103, &c. Capgrave sub An. 1319.

The estate at East Farleigh which, in the first of the letters referred to in the margin, is said to be in the King's hand, was without doubt forfeited for the share which the late owner had in the repulse of Queen Isabella when she applied for hospitality at Ledes Castle in 1319. Capgrave thus tells the story: "In the same yere fel a case which was "cause of mech anger. The Qwene went on pil-"grimage to Cauntirbyry, purposing be the wey to "rest in the castelle of Ledis, whech castell the Kyng "had gove in exchange for other londis to a knyte "thei cleped Bartholomew Batlismere, whil he was the "Kyngis steward; where his wif was and his childyrn "and alle his tresore, for he was with the barnes[1] in her "bysinesse. The Qwenes purvyours cam thedir, but "thei myte not entre. So thei herborowed hir in othir "place; there myte she no logging have. The Qwene "when sche cam home compleyned to the Kyng, and he "with a grete multitude of puple, specially of London, "rod thedir. He asked entre and thei denyed it. At

[1] Barons.

" the last thei yolde for defaut of vitaile: Thomas Col-
" pepir, Keper of the castell, was hang and drawe; the
" othir men that were there were slayn in dyvers maner,
" the women were sent to the Toure of London." The articles 71 and 72 in the Appendix describe the farther steps taken by the King; and they also show that the garrison of the castle were adjudged to be traitors, in which case their lands would be forfeited to the Crown. Considering the dates of the surrender of the castle and of the Prior's first appeal to the King (91) it may be taken for granted that Walter Colepeper was a relative of the Governor, serving under him in the garrison, and implicated both in his treason and its penalty. It must be observed that the Prior asks for the land as a gift, when he might have hoped that it would revert to him, the mesne lord, as an escheat, on the conviction and forfeiture of the tenant. This part of his suit was not granted, but the accustomed quit rent, as paid by Colepeper, was allowed to him yearly in the Exchequer.

The series of letters grouped under this title relate to the affairs of the BenedictineP riory of St. Martin at Dover, but especially to a dispute which, lasting more than two centuries, embroiled with each other the priory itself, the Crown, the Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Chapter of Christ Church. Causa Dovoriæ 295, &c.

The house was first founded in the 7th century by Eadbald, son of Ethelbert of Kent; and it was then furnished with a body of secular canons, who kept their places for five hundred years, but who, in consequence of some irregularities, were displaced in favour of a convent of Black Monks. This change was begun in 1131 by Henry I. (acting as representative of the founder and therefore as patron) by whom the Priory with all its belongings was granted to Archbishop William and the Church of Canterbury.[1] By this apparently double gift the King (who erroneously be-

[1] Dugdale gives a copy of the royal grant.

lieved that the Archbishop and his monks, having common interests, would always work in concord) prepared the way for the great quarrel which almost immediately burst out. Archbishop Ralph, succeeding to William, ejected the canons and introduced a prior and twelve Benedictine monks, and at his death he apparently left the undisputed possession and control of the priory to his successor Theobald. This energetic ruler of men at once obtained from Henry II. a confirmation of his grandfather's charter, and himself drew up an *ordinatio* in which he settled a new scheme for the foundation, and especially he decreed that every Prior of Dover should be chosen from the convent of Canterbury. Towards the end of the 13th century it appears that the Prior of Christ Church had encroached upon the Archbishop's rights, and had usurped the advowson of St. Martin's, in consequence of which encroachment, the Crown, in A.D. 1286, summoned the Prior to show by what right he exercised his patronage at Dover. When the cause came on for trial, the Prior's counsel replied to the demand of J. le Fauconer, who appeared for the Crown; "quod nichil clamavit nec aliquod habuit in "eadem, nisi tantum quod Archiepiscopus, in tempore "vacacionis prioratus, assignat ibi unum monachum de "domo sua loco Prioris." Upon this it was decided that the Prior of Christ Church had no *locus standi* (not even as a defendant), and the patronage of the house was adjudged to the Crown, as against the Prior. But, immediately after this decision, Archbishop Peckham claimed the advowson for himself and his successors by virtue of Theobald's *ordinatio,* at the same time disputing the power of the latter to bind his successors by limiting their choice of a prior to the convent of Canterbury. Peckham's attempt was rendered fruitless through a blunder of one of the justices, who by a mistake in policy or procedure, seized the priory into the King's hand by virtue of a writ, which Ralph de Hengham, the Chief Justice, stigmatizes as "illud fatuum breve et male conceptum." The Crown

Appx. 29.

Appx. 28.

Appx. 46.

from this time remained in peaceable possession of the patronage until A.D. 1320, when Edward II. conferred the advowson absolutely upon Archbishop Walter; at the same time setting aside Theobald's *ordination*, so far as to declare that the Priors of St. Martin's should always be chosen from among the monks of St Martin's; and that if ever it happened that the see of Canterbury and the priorate of St. Martin's should be simultaneously vacant, then that the sub-prior should be *custos spiritualitatis* of the priory until the election of a new archbishop, who would have power to nominate a prior. In A.D. 1329, apparently on the motion of the Prior of Christ Church, discontented with the repeal of Theobald's ordination, the whole case was re-opened, and leave was given to search the rolls for the record of the trial of 1286. When this was done, it was found that at that time no *breve originale* had been issued, and that the proceedings having therefore been informal, ought to be quashed. In the next year a new writ was sued out, almost the same ground was gone over again, and a day was given for the appearance of the Archbishop (Meopham) and the Prior. The former failed to put in an appearance, not only on this occasion but on several other days to which the proceedings were adjourned, and at last he died, in A.D. 1333, being *in misericordia* on account of his contumacy, or more probably his neglect. In Michaelmas term 1334, in consequence of the death of the principal party, the case for the time came to an end—"unde loquela remansit sine die." In A.D. 1356 the property of the priory, and therefore the value of the patronage, having much diminished, Archbishop Islip voluntarily surrendered all his rights to the Prior of Christ Church, who in his turn sold them to the Chapter of St. Martin's for a small annual pension, charged upon some of their appropriate benefices. See appendix 28 et seqq, and "Dover, St. Martin's" in the index.

LITERÆ CANTUARIENSES.

LITERÆ CANTUARIENSES.

1.—Littera Archiepiscopi ad Capitulum Cantuariense directum de Parliamento tenendo. S. 55 *a*.

Formula. The Archbishop's summons, sent in obedience to the King's writ, requiring the Prior personally, and the Chapter and Clergy by proctors, to be present in Parliament.

Thomas permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, totius Angliæ Primas, et Apostolicæ Sedis Legatus, dilectis in Christo filiis Priori et Capitulo Ecclesiæ nostræ Cantuariensis, salutem, gratiam, et benedictionem. Breve regium nuper recepimus in hæc verba: "Henricus Dei gratia Rex Angliæ et Franciæ " et Dominus Hiberniæ, venerabili in Christo patri " Thomæ eadem gratia Archiepiscopo Cantuariensi, " totius Angliæ Primati, salutem. Quia de avisamento " consilii nostri, pro quibusdam arduis et urgentibus " negotiis nos statum et defensionem regni nostri " Angliæ et Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ concernentibus, quod- " dam Parliamentum nostrum apud Coventre, quin- " todecimo die Februarii proximo futuro, teneri or- " dinavimus, et ibidem vobiscum, ac cum ceteris " prælatis magnatibus et proceribus dicti regni nostri " colloquium habere et tractatum, vobis, in fide et " dilectione quibus nobis tenemini, firmiter injungendo " mandamus, quod, consideratis dictorum negotiorum " arduitate et periculis imminentibus, cessante qua- " cumque excusatione, dictis die et loco personaliter " intersitis nobiscum, ac cum ceteris prælatis magna- " tibus et proceribus prædictis, super dictis negotiis " tractaturi, vestrumque consilium impensuri. Et hoc, " sicut nos et honorem nostrum, ac salvationem et " defensionem regni et Ecclesiæ praedictorum, expedi- " tionemque dictorum negotiorum diligitis, nullatenus

" omittatis. Præmunientes Priorem et Capitulum " Ecclesiæ vestræ Cantuariensis, ac Archidiaconos, " totumque Clerum vestræ dioecesis, quod iidem Prior " et Archidiaconi in propriis personis suis, ac dictum " Capitulum per unum, idemque Clerus per duos pro- " curatores idoneos, plenam et sufficientem potestatem " ab ipsis Capitulo et Clero divisim habentes, dictis " die et loco personaliter intersint, ad consenciendum " hiis quæ ibidem tunc de communi consilio ipsius " regni nostra, divina favente clemencia, contigerit " ordinari. Teste meipso apud Westmonasterium xxj. " die Decembris anno regni nostri septimo." Quocirca vos tenore præsentium præmunimus, quatinus vos Domine Prior in propria persona vestra, ac Capitulum per unum procuratorem ydoneum, plenam et sufficientem potestatem a vobis habentem, præfatis die et loco in dicto brevi contentis, personaliter intersitis, ad consenciendum hiis quæ ibidem ut præmittitur contigerit ordinari. Et quid in præmissis facere decreveritis nos citra festum Purificationis Beatæ Mariæ proxime futurum debite certificare curetis. Datum in manerio nostro de Maydenston xij^{mo} die mensis Januarii anno Domini, &c.

L. 147 *a*.

2.—Littera certificatoria de Parliamento et Procuratorium pro eodem sub uno Compendio.

Formula. The Prior, quoting as far as is necessary the royal summons sent through the Archbishop, appoints proctors to represent the Chapter

Venerabili in Christo patri W(altero) Dei gratia Cantuariensi Archiepiscopo etc. devoti filii H(enricus) Prior et Capitulum etc., salutem, etc. Litteras paternitatis vestræ, septimo die Decembris proximo præterito recepimus, habentes tenorem subscriptum: *Walterus permissione, etc.* Nos igitur ad consenciendum hiis, quae in instanti Parliamento vel Congregatione Cleri Londoniis ad honorem Dei et Ecclesiæ et utilitatem totius reipuplicæ, de communi consilio et assensu vestro ac Prælatorum et Cleri provinciæ vestræ Can-

tuariensis concorditer ordinari contigerit, dilectos nobis in Christo Fratres A. et B., commonachos nostros, procuratores nostros conjunctim et divisim facimus et constituimus per præsentes; dantes eisdem potestatem substituendi loco suo alios procuratores seu procuratorem ad præmissa, et eosdem revocandi quotiens sibi viderint expedire; ratum habituri id quod per dictos procuratores nostros, vel substitutos suos seu substitutum, nomine nostro actum fuerit in forma præscripta. Et hæc omnibus quorum interest tenore præsentium intimamus. Dat. in Capitulo nostro tertio die Januarii, anno Dni., etc. in Parliament and Convocation.

3.—Littera procuratoria in Convocatione Cleri. S. 63 *b.*

Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos præsentes litteræ pervenerint J. permissione divina Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis et ejusdem loci Conventus, salutem. Noverit universitas vestra per præsentes, nos ordinasse et constituisse dilectum nobis in Christo Magistrum J. L., Sacræ Paginæ Professorem, commonachumque Ecclesiæ antedictæ, procuratorem nostrum in Convocacione Cleri in Ecclesia Sancti Pauli Londoniarum proximo celebranda, habentem potestatem omnimodam ad consenciendum seu dissenciendum hiis quæ in præmissa convocacione contigerit emergere, pro ampliore expeditione et honore Dei et Ecclesiæ suæ sanctæ, ac etiam pro majori commodo regni Angliæ propensius proroganda. Datum Cantuariæ in domo nostra capitulari, penultimo die mensis Novembris, etc. Formula. Appointment of a proctor in Convocation.

4.—Citatoria Littera directa Priori et Conventui ad comparendum in Visitatione.

H., permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, totius Angliae Primas, et Apostolicae Sedis Legatus, Formula. Summons re-

quiring the Convent to appear at the Archbishop's visitation.

dilectis in Christo filiis Priori et Capitulo Ecclesiæ nostræ Cantuariensis, salutem, gratiam et benedictionem. Inter ceteras pastoralis officii sollicitudines eam fore præcipuam arbitramus, ut gregi nobis commisso debitum visitationis officium impendamus; ceterumque, ut tradit juris auctoritas, a capite primo edenda est ratio, et secundum canonicas sanctiones: *qui alios intendit corrigere prius necesse habet se et suos debite reformare*, dictarum legum et canonum, sanctorumque patrum statuta, in hac parte sectantes, ac nostram Cantuariensem provinciam, jure metropolitico, ut tenemur, Deo propitio, visitare volentes, visitationem nostram hujusmodi, ad Dei laudem, criminum correctionem, et morum reformationem, in Ecclesia nostra Cantuariensi personaliter duximus inchoandam. Tenore igitur præsentium peremptorie vos citamus, et per vos omnes et singulos commonachos et confratres nostrae Cantuariensis Ecclesiæ qui nostræ visitationi hujusmodi interesse debebunt, de consuetudine vel de jure, per vos peremptorie citari volumus; et mandamus quatinus . . . die mensis . . . . proximo futuro, cum continuatione et prorogatione dierum tunc sequentium, in domo capitulari præfatæ nostræ Ecclesiæ compareatis, et compareant personaliter coram nobis, vel, si præpediti fuerimus, coram nostris Commissariis, visitationem hujusmodi, juxta juris exigenciam, humiliter subituri, facturique ulterius et recepturi quod sacris convenit institutis. Et quid feceritis in praemissis, nos, vel Commissarios nostros hujusmodi, dictis die et loco, cum nominibus et cognominibus omnium et singulorum qui præfatæ nostræ visitationi interesse tenentur, distincte et aperte certificare curetis, per vestras patentes litteras harum seriem continentes, sigillo autentico consignatas. Data in manerio nostro de Lamheth, sub sigillo nostro *ad causas*, ... die mensis . . . . anno Domini . . . .°, et nostrae translacionis anno . . . .°.

5.—Certificatorium Litteræ suprascriptæ. S. 71 *a*.

Reverendissimo in Christo patri ac domino, Domino H., Dei gratia Cantuariensi Archiepiscopo, totius Angliæ Primati, et Apostolicæ Sedis Legato, sanctæ vestræ Cantuariensis Ecclesiæ . . . . Prior et Capitulum, obedientiam et reverenciam tanto patri debitas, cum honore. Paternitatis vestræ litteras nuperrime reverenter recepimus, tenorem qui sequitur continentes: "Henricus, etc." quarum quidem litterarum vestrarum, per nos Priorem et Capitulum antedictos, diligenter attento tenore, omnibus et singulis in eisdem contentis humiliter obedire volentes, ut tenemur, nos Prior et Capitulum memorati tenore præsentium fatemur nos dictarum litterarum vigore peremptorie citatos ad comparendum coram vobis, vel vestris Commissariis, die et loco in dictis vestris litteris nobis præfixis, vestram visitationem subituros, quam etiam, ipsis die et loco, intendimus atque volumus humiliter subire et devote. Citari insuper fecimus peremptorie, prout nobis in dictis vestris mandabatur litteris, omnes et singulos commonachos et confratres nostros qui visitationem vestram, de qua præmittitur, subire tenentur quoquomodo; quod ipsi, die et loco nobis et eis ut præmittitur assignatis, una nobiscum personaliter compareant, visitationem vestram tunc subituri ut tenentur, religiosis viris Fratre J. L., Sacræ Paginæ Professore, ac Fratribus A. B. et C., ad studium generale Oxoniæ, causa studii, transmissis, et in eodem actualiter studentibus, quos vestræ paternitatis benignitas a compariciione quacumque in visitatione vestra memorata, ad nostram humilem supplicationem, ista vice habere dignetur excusatos, duntaxat exceptis. Nomina vero et cognomina, tam mei J., Prioris quam aliorum per me et Capitulum prædictum citatorum, in quadam cedula præsentibus patenter annexa specifice continentur. Quae omnia et singula

The Prior's acknowledgment of the Archbishop's summons.

vestræ paternitati antedictæ, et vestris in hac parte Commissariis quibuscumque, si vos dictæ visitationis die abesse contingat, intimamus per præsentes sigillo nostro communi, quo utimur ad causas et negotia, consignatas. Data in domo nostra capitulari mense . . . die anno . . . . . secundum Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ cursum et computacionem.

S 178 *a*. 6.—Littera clausa sub sigillo communi missa Domino —— Archiepiscopo Cantuariensi ad intimandum de morte [cujusdam] Prioris Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis.

Formula. The death of a Prior is announced to the Archbishop, who is asked to come to assist at the choice of a successor.

Reverendissimo in Christo patri et domino Domino —— Dei gratia Cantuariensi Archiepiscopo, totius Angliæ Primati, et Apostolicæ Sedis Legato, vestri humiles et devoti filii —— Supprior et Capitulum vestræ Sanctæ Cantuariensis Ecclesiæ, obedientiam, reverentiam, et honorem, cum orationum suffragiis quantum valent. Mortem recolendæ memoriæ Domini —— —— Prioris nostri, cum dolore non modico, scribere jam urgemur, quem mors invida dente nephario mutilavit, ac —— die mensis jam instantis, inter horam (quartam et quintam), in aurora, universæ carnis tributum solvere coartavit, cujus animæ sit propitius omnium Conditor et Creator. Verum, pater reverendissime, cum sæpius mora periculum trahat, ut dampnosis eventibus obvictur, gressus vestros ad Ecclesiam vestram, si placeat, cum celeritate qua poteritis dirigatis, ad tractandum cum filiis vestris de futuro Priore, secundum consuetudinem Ecclesiæ laudabilem a tempore fundationis hactenus usitatam; quia veraciter credimus, quod, sicut obitus memorati Domini —— nobis amaritudinis et tristiciæ calicem propinavit, sic, per vestrae jocunditatis praesentiam gaudii et exultationis spiritum assumemus. Beneplacitum vestrum in hiis et aliis per Fratres J. G., Ecclesiæ Sacristam, et R. S., præsentium latores,

scribere velitis intuitu caritatis cum effectu. Vestram paternitatem reverendissimam conservet in prosperis Filius Virginis gloriosæ. Dat Cant. etc.

7.—Littera Domini Archiepiscopi directa Suppriori, ad citandum Fratres suos omnes et singulos ad comparendum coram eo pro Electione [Prioris] facienda. S. 178 *d.*

Formula. The Archbishop directs the Sub-prior to assemble all the monks on a certain day to meet him in the Chapter House for the purpose of electing a new Prior.

J., permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, totius Angliæ Primas, et Apostolicæ Sedis Legatus, dilecto in Christo filio Suppriori Ecclesiæ nostræ Cantuariensis, salutem, gratiam, et benedictionem. Nuper bonæ memoriæ Fratre] J. .E., ultimo Ecclesiæ antedictæ Priore, prout Altissimo placuit, viam universæ carnis ingresso, ejusque morte sub sigillo communi dictæ Ecclesiæ nostræ per duos confratres et commonachos ipsius Ecclesiae, prout moris est antiquitus, nobis postmodum intimata; ac nos propterea volentes, prout tenemur, eidem Ecclesiæ nostræ de Priore, cum celeritate qua possumus, Domino annuente, providere, et ipsum præficere in eadem; vobis committimus et mandamus, firmiter injungentes, quatinus omnes et singulos commonachos et confratres ejusdem Ecclesiæ, qui in præfectione Prioris habent et debent, de consuetudine vel de jure, interesse, præmuniatis, seu præmuniri faciatis, quod sint et compareant coram nobis in domo nostra capitulari Cantuariensi —— die mensis ——, videlicet, in festo ——, vota sua[1] eorumque consilium super præfectione Prioris hujusmodi, secundum antiquam Ecclesiæ nostræ consuetudinem, exhibituri et dicturi, facturique ulterius et recepturi, cum continuatione et prorogatione dierum tunc sequentium, quod justitia suadebit. Et quid in hac parte feceritis nos, unacum nominibus et cognominibus

[1] *vota sua* = their votes.

omnium et singulorum confratrum et commonachorum per vos præmunitorum, in cedula vestris litteris certificatoriis annectanda, dictis die et loco hujusmodi certificetis litteris vestris patentibus habentibus hunc tenorem. Data in manerio nostro de ——, talibus die, mense, et anno, et translationis nostræ anno tali.

S. 178 *b*. 8.—LITTERA SUB SIGILLO SUPPRIORIS DIRECTA A. B., TUNC CUSTODI AULÆ SEU COLLEGII CANTUARIENSIS ET SOCIIS SUIS OXONIÆ STUDENTIBUS, AD COMPARENDUM CORAM DOMINO ARCHIEPISCOPO CERTIS DIE ET LOCO PRO ELECTIONE PRIORIS FACIENDA.

Formula. The monks of Christ Church studying at Oxford are summoned to the election of a Prior.

Thomas, Supprior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, dilectis in Christo fratribus Custodi et sociis suis Aulæ seu Collegii Cantuariensis Oxoniae studentibus, salutem in Eo qui est omnium vera salus. Cum M. N., Prior noster quod dolentes referimus —— die mensis —— diem suum clausit extremum, vos Custodem præmunimus, et per vos singulos confratres nostros socios vestros præmuniri volumus, quatinus —— die mensis —— videlicet in festo —— cum continuatione et prorogatione dierum subsequentium compareatis, et compareat eorum quilibet, coram reverendissimo in Christo patre et domino, Domino nostro Cantuariensi Archiepiscopo, una nobiscum in domo nostra capitulari, facturi, visuri, et recepturi, quod juxta morem præteriti temporis erit consonum rationi. Et quid in hac parte feceritis, dictis die et loco nos certificetis per litteras vestras certificatorias, sigillo sub autentico, harum seriem continentes, cum nominibus et cognominibus fratrum nostrorum legitime præmunitorum. Dat. Cant., etc.

9.—Certificatorium Supprioris de Mandato Domini Archiepiscopi.

L. 179 *a*.

Reverendissimo in Christo patri et domino, Domino J., etc., vester humilis et devotus filius T., Supprior Ecclesiæ vestræ Cantuariensis, obedientiam, etc. Mandatum vestrum reverendissimum nuper recepi sub eo qui sequitur tenore verborum. "J., permissione divina, etc." Cujus auctoritate mandati omnes fratres meos et singulos monachos Ecclesiæ vestræ præmunivi quod compareant et compareat eorum quilibet in domo nostra Capitulari Cantuariensi —— die mensis —— proximo futuro.

Formula. The Subprior acknowledges the receipt of the Archbishop's mandate for the election of a Prior.

10.—Littera fraternitatis missa Abbati Monasterii Sanctæ Crucis de Waltham.

Reverendo in Christo fratri Domino Abbati Dei gratia exempti Monasterii Sanctae Crucis de Waltham et ejusdem loci venerabili Conventui, Johannes eadem gratia Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, salutem et fraternalem in Domino dilectionem. Caritativam vestram amiciciam diligenti peticione prævenimus, et in Domino requirimus attentius, quatinus dilectorum fratrum et monachorum nostrorum animas, videlicet, Thomæ sacerdotis et professi qui viij° Idus Februarii, ac etiam Thomæ sacerdotis et professi qui ij^ie^ Idus Aprilis, necnon Thomæ sacerdotis et professi qui primo die mensis Marcii, Willelmi quoque sacerdotis et professi qui ij^ie^ Idus Novembris, de præsenti carnis ergastulo sunt subtracti, devotis vestris obsequiis habeatis recommendatas. Ut pia missarum et orationum suffragia quibus ad invicem mutuæ vicissitudinis obtentu obligamur, caritative dignemini adimplere. Fraternitatem vestram reverendam ad Dei honorem et religionis augmentum dirigat Altissimus. Scriptum Cantuariæ in Ecclesia nostra prædicta die, etc.

Formula. The annual letter sent to a Monastery in *society* with Christ Church by the hands of the Brevigerulus.

L. 137 *b*.

11.—Littera pro Amicis convocandis ad Sepulturam Praelati.

Formula. Invitation to the funeral of any dignitary.

Decanus (vel Supprior) et Capitulum, salutem, etc. Profunda nimis suspiria trahimus luctuosa, et flebiles gemitus nos perurgent clamore lugubri plangere Domini N., nostri patris et pastoris (vel Abbatis vel Prioris) occasum, super quem pridie cecidit sors humana, et mors invida dente nephario mutilavit, et solvere debitum cohartavit universæ carnis tributum, cujus animæ sit propitius omnium Conditor et Creator. Verum quia (die tali) in ecclesia nostra praedicta corpus ejus ecclesiasticæ disposuimus tradere sepulturæ, paternitati vestræ devotis animis supplicamus, quatinus placeat vobis eodem die funeralibus ipsius obsequiis interesse, et cum aliis amicis nostris in mensa recumbere post laborem, nocteque sequenti nobiscum dare membra quieti, vestræ jocunditatis presentia nostræ desolationis tristia consolaturi. Beneplacitum vestrum in hiis et aliis nobis per bajulum præsentium significare velitis. Dat. etc.

S. 221 *a*.

12.—Littera Fraternitatis.

Formula. Letter of confraternity by which a benefactor or patron of the monastery was admitted as an honorary member of the Chapter; thus becoming entitled to share in

Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos præsentes litteræ nostræ pervenerint, Thomas permissione divina Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis et ejusdem loci Capitulum, salutem in Eo qui est omnium vera salus. Quamvis ex caritatis debito omnibus teneamur, illis tamen multo magis obligamur quorum dilectionem, certis beneficiorum indiciis, frequentius experimur. Nos igitur, attendentes sinceræ dilectionis affectum quem dilectus nobis in Christo T. R., erga nostram Cantuariensem Ecclesiam, et gloriosum Thomam Martirem, ceterosque ejusdem Ecclesiæ patronos, pie gerit, cupientesque sibi pro tanta dilectione vicem reddere, ac, quo modo possumus, ut tenemur, spiritualiter satis-

facere; ipsum J. R. ad nostrum fraternitatis consortium admittimus et incorporamus, ut omnium et singulorum operum pietatis quæ in nostra Cantuariensi Ecclesia fiunt, et amodo fient in futuro, sit particeps quoad vixerit, atque post obitum ejus idem munus eidem concedimus per præsentes. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum nostrum commune præsentibus fecimus apponi. Datum in domo nostra Capitulari die, mense, et anno talibus.

the benefits arising from the prayers and pious services performed by the professed brethren of the Convent.

13.—Alia Littera Fraternitatis concessa Dominæ M. C. et aliis, ut patet. S. 212 *b*.

Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos nostræ litteræ pervenerint, Thomas permissione divina Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis et ejusdem loci Capitulum, salutem in Domino sempiternam. Attendentes sinceræ devotionis affectum quem reverenda et carissima in Christo domina M. C., humilis et devota carismatum æmulatrix, cum suis maritis, videlicet, J. N. armigero et Domino R. C. milite, nutu divino ab hac luce misericorditer subtractis, una cum filio suo Domino R. C. milite, et Domina E. ejusdem conthorale, adhuc degentibus, propter Deum et singularem devotionem quam ipsa venerabilis domina prælibata erga nostram sanctam Cantuariensem Ecclesiam et ad perinclytum et pretiosum Martirem Beatum Thomam, cujus corpus in dicta sacrosancta Ecclesia honorifice jacet tumulatum, ac alios ejusdem Ecclesiæ patronos, gessisse diutius perhibetur; ipsam dominam prænominatam, devotis ejusdem precibus inclinati, et quemlibet ipsorum per se, in plenam et perpetuam nostri Capituli fraternitatem, intuitu caritatis, admittimus, et devotius amplexamur, ac singulorum pietatis operum, quæ nobiscum in nostra sancta Cantuariensi Ecclesia fiunt aut deinceps fient imperpetuum, participes esse, tam in vita

Formula. A letter of confraternity granted to exalted personages.

quam in morte, concedimus per præsentes. In cujus rei testimonium, &c.

Dat. Cant. in domo nostra capitulari die tali, &c.

S. 207 *b*.

14.—Iterum, Littera Fraternitatis.

Formula. A third form of a letter of confraternity.

Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos nostræ præsentes litteræ pervenerint, Thomas permissione divina Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis et ejusdem loci Capitulum, salutem in Domino sempiternam. Cum non deceat devotionis odoriferæ famam, quæ cotidie in cordibus hominum devotorum pullulat et florescit, sub modio occultari; hinc est quod T. T. et Johanna conthoralis ejus morum honestate multipliciter insigniti, ac æmulatores effecti carismatum meliorum, pie et devote considerantes, apud Deum acceptiora fore suffragia meritorum quae a pluribus devote unanimiter supplicantibus, fraterna in Spiritu Sancto caritate, ferventiori exercitio frequentantur, nobis humiliter supplicarunt, quatinus, propter Deum, et singularem devotionis affectum quem ad perinclitum et pretiosum Martirem Sanctum Thomam optinent, ipsos nostris precibus et orationibus ceterisque piis operibus meritorum, quæ in nostra sancta Cantuariensi Ecclesia cotidie exercentur, communicato suffragio uniremus. Nos eorum devotioni, quantum in nobis est, satisfacere cupientes, merito, ut tenemur, in Christi gratia, ejusque sacratissimæ matris et virginis Mariæ, Sancti Thomæ Martiris gloriosi, ceterorumque sacrosanctæ Cantuariensis Ecclesiæ patronorum suffragiis humiliter confidentes, vos, venerabilem T. T., unacum inclita Johanna conthorale vestra, ad perpetuum nostræ fraternitatis consortium, in sinceris Christi visseribus, admittimus, et devotius amplexamur, ac omnium et singulorum pietatis operum, quæ nobiscum in Sancta Cantuariensi Ecclesia fiunt aut fient imperpetuum, tam in vita quam in morte, vos participes esse volu-

mus et concedimus per præsentes. In cujus rei evidenciam præsentem paginam sigillo nostro communi, in domo nostra Capitulari Cantuariensi, talibus die, mense, et anno, de nostro consensu mutuo unanimi, fecimus communiri.

15.—Littera Brevigeruli. S. 221 *a*.

Formula. Commission of the Brevigerulus.

Universis Sanctæ Matris Ecclesiæ filiis ad quos præsentes litterae pervenerint, Thomas permissione divina Prior Ecclesiae Christi Cantuariensis totius Angliæ primæ metropolis, et ejusdem loci Capitulum, salutem in Eo qui est vera salus animarum. Noverit universitas vestra, quod per orationum devota libamina, necnon per cetera pietatis opera, animæ defunctorum de purgatorii ergastulo celeriter liberantur. Hinc est quod vestram universitatem suppliciter oramus, quatinus, ob reverentiam Summæ Trinitatis, pro animabus fratrum et sororum nostri Capituli dignetur hostias orationum divinæ offerre clementiæ. Et quia justis universis Omnipotens Dominus præmia æterna retribuit, quotiens uni ex minimis suis per temporalia subsidia viscera extenderint, caritatis vestræ pietatis deprecamur clementiam, quatinus Johanni Fleccher brevigerulo nostro, latori præsentium, studeat viatica impertiri solatia, ut Ille bonorum omnium retributor, pro temporalibus et terrenis spiritualia et æterna retribuat; et ad beneficia reciproca sciatis nos obligatos. Præsentes vero litteras roboris firmitatem per triennium duntaxat volumus obtinere. Data Cantuariæ in domo nostra Capitulari die, mense, et anno talibus.[1]

[1] The Brevigerulus, Breviger, Brevitor, or Portitor Brevium was dispatched on the death of a prelate, or when there was no such special occasion once or twice a year, to make a circuit of all the monasteries which were joined to Christ Church by the contract of *mutual society*, to each of which he announced the names of the brethren who had died since his last visit, in order that the usual offices might be performed for their souls. The news received, the monastery visited

S. 186 *b*. 16.—Littera de Licencia Consecrationis [Episcopi] electi extra Ecclesiam Cantuariensem.

Formula. The Chapter consent to the consecration of a bishop elect of the province of Canterbury, in some church other than that of Canterbury. This form is known as a *licence of alibi*.

Reverendissimo in Christo patri et domino Domino —— Dei gratia Cantuariensi Archiepiscopo, totius Angliae Primati, et Apostolicæ Sedis Legato, vestri humiles et devoti filii —— Prior et Capitulum vestræ sanctæ Cantuariensis Ecclesiæ, obedientiam, reverentiam tanto patri debitas cum honore. Licet gloriosus Martir Sanctus Thomas, qui pro jure et libertate Ecclesiæ vestræ Cantuariensis glorioso meruit coronari martirio; et nichilominus beatissimus Edmundus Confessor,[1] prædecessores vestri, favore benevolo indulserint, provideque statuerint, consecrationes quorumlibet suffraganeorum vestræ Ecclesiæ memoratæ in eadem sancta Cantuariensi Ecclesia, et non alibi, presencialiter celebrari debere, nisi de communi consensu totius Capituli Cantuariensis graciose fuit optentum, quod aliquis alibi quam in sancta Ecclesia vestra prædicta valeat consecrari, sitque idipsum Ecclesiæ vestræ per Sedem Apostolicam privilegialiter indultum, necnon de antiqua et approbata consuetudine, hactenus habitum et obtentum, quibus in nullo volumus, prout nec debemus, per Dei gratiam, in aliquo derogari. Ut tamen venerabilis amicus noster Dompnus A. B. —— ensis confirmatus extra Ecclesiam vestram Cantuariensem valeat consecrari, quatenus in nobis est, nostrum ad hoc damus consensum pariter et assensum, ratum habituri et gratum quicquid per vos actum, concessum, seu expeditum fuerit in præmissis: ceteris juribus, privilegiis, libertatibus, et consuetudinibus Ec-

wrote a kind of receipt on the back of the roll and sped the Brevigerulus on the next stage of his journey. A handsome specimen of the mortuary roll which the Brevigerulus carried is in the Archives of the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury, and is printed in this volume, under the date 1336.

[1] These privileges of St. Thomas and St. Edmund are printed in the appendix to this volume.

clesiæ vestræ Cantuariensis in omnibus semper salvis. In cujus rei, etc. Dat. Cant., etc.

17.—[Forma qua utimur in Manumissione Nativorum nostrorum.]

S. 208 *a*.

Formula. Manumission of a bondman.

Universis Christi fidelibus ad quos præsentes litteræ nostræ pervenerint, Thomas permissione divina Prior Ecclesiae Christi Cantuariensis et ejusdem loci Capitulum, salutem in Domino sempiternam. Noverit universitas vestra, nos, de nostris unanimi consensu pariter et assensu, manumisisse et liberum fecisse T. C. filium J. C., nativum nostrum de dominio nostro de R. in comitatu B., cum tota sequela sua procreata et procreanda, et cum omnibus bonis et catallis suis habitis et habendis; ita quod nos nec successores nostri aliquid juris vel clamii in ipso Thoma, nec sequela sua procreata seu procreanda, vel catallis suis, ut præmittitur, ratione seu occasione nativitatis exigere vel vendicare poterimus in futuro. Sed ipsum T. C., cum tota sequela procreata et procreanda, ac bonis et catallis suis, ut præfertur, ab omni onere et jugo servitutis liberum, et quietum, et absolutum esse imperpetuum, volumus et concedimus per præsentes. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum nostrum commune præsentibus est appensum. Data in domo nostra Capitulari die tali, etc.

18.—[Forma Commissionis Famulorum nostrorum] ad Fenestram Coquinæ.

Formula. The form by which the lay-servitors of the Monastery were appointed.

Noverint universi per præsentes nos J. miseratione divina Priorem Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis et ejusdem loci Capitulum concessisse dilecto et fideli servienti nostro R. B. de C., pro bono et laudabili obsequio suo nobis et Ecclesiæ nostræ hactenus impenso et

The inferior servants were bound to perform their duties personally, but some of those officers of esquire's rank who were appointed by the Archbishop and not by the Chapter, seem to have accepted the salary personally but performed the duties by deputy.

imposterum impendendo, et pro quadam summa pecuniæ nobis persoluta, officium servientis Elemosinariæ nostræ ad fenestram refectorii nostri concessimus; habendum et tenendum prædictum officium ad terminum vitae suæ, faciendo per omnia et deserviendo personaliter in eodem officio prout antiquitus per alios servientes præcedentes fieri consuevit. Pro quo quidem officio et summa ut præmittitur persoluta, eidem R. B. singulis diebus vitæ suæ, dummodo personaliter in eodem officio deservierit, in esculentis et poculentis vestura et stipendiis ministrabitur sicut alteri servienti ejusdem Elemosinariæ ejusdem status ministratur et solitum est hujusmodi servientibus ministrari. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum nostrum commune præsentibus est appensum. Dat. in domo nostra Capitulari, etc.[1]

L. 123 *a*.

19.—Forma Litterarum Servientium de Officio Panetriæ, Celarii, et Hostiarii Aulæ Hospitum, et Custodiæ Portæ Interioris Curiæ, et Custodiæ Ostii Infirmariæ quando recipiunt Officia prædicta.

Formula by which the lay holders of an office in the Monastery announces his appointment and incidentally confesses that he may be dismissed by the Prior.

Universis, etc. A. de B. salutem. Noveritis quod Dominus . . . Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis de voluntate Conventus Concessit michi tale officium in tali loco, et liberationem ad dictum officium spectantem, de sua gratia speciali, et quamdiu sibi placuerit dictum officium cum suis pertinentiis habendum et tenendum. In cujus, etc.

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[1] Much information relating to the duties and privileges of these lay-servitors will be found in the MS. Cotton. Galba. E. 4, which once belonged to Christ Church, Canterbury, as well as in the Registers still remaining in the Library of the Dean and Chapter.

20. — Obligatio tenentium et plegiorum suorum qui habitant in domibus nostris locatis in Cantuaria. L. 123 *b*.

Universis, etc. pateat quod in festo Sci. Michaelis anno regni Regis Edwardi filii Regis Edwardi xvj^mo ego A. recepi a Priore et Conventu Ecclesiæ Xpi Cantuariensis unam domum in parochia Sci. Andreæ in Cantuaria, inter domos B. et C. tenendam et inhabitandam prædictam domum cum pertinentiis suis, sumptibus prædictorum Prioris et Conventus in coopertura et clausura sustinendam, de eisdem Priore et Conventu a festo Sci. Michaelis prædicto usque ad idem festum proxime sequens, et ulterius quamdiu eisdem Priori et Conventui placuerit. Reddendo pro prædicta domo eisdem Priori et Conventui annuatim, in thesauraria sua apud Cantuariam, ad quatuor terminos principales per æquales portiones, quamdiu prædictam domum tenuero, quinquaginta solidos sterlingorum. Ad quam quidem solutionem prædictis loco et terminis faciendam tenore presentium obligo me, et heredes meos, et omnia bona mea mobilia et immobilia, habita et habenda. Et, ad majorem omnium præmissorum securitatem, nos B. et C. tenore præsentium obligamus nos, conjunctim et divisim et utrumque nostrum insolidum, et heredes nostros, et omnia bona nostra mobilia et immobilia, ad solutionem totius pecuniæ prædictae, si contingat prædictum A. in solutione ejusdem pecuniæ deficere ad terminos prædictos. In quorum omnium testimonium, etc. Data et acta in Ecclesia Xpi. prædicta die tali anno supradicto.

Formula.

The agreement entered into by annual tenants of the convent.

21.—De litteris exemplificandis. L. 123 *a*.

Universis pateat per præsentes quod nos H. Prior, &c., vidimus et inspeximus litteras patentes venerabilis patris W. &c., non abolitas set sanas, et integras,

Formula.

To be used in certifying to the

existence of letters patent.

et in nulla parte viciatas, tenorem qui sequitur continentes: "*Walterus, &c. Dat., &c.*" Nos vero ad instanciam prædicti Willelmi, propter varios rerum eventus, prædictas litteras sub sigillo nostro fecimus exemplificari, omnibus quorum interest notificandas. In quorum omnium testimonium, &c. Dat. Cant. &c.

L. 141 *a*.

22.—De professione novitiorum.

Formula. The Prior asks the Archbishop's licence to receive the professions of novices who have passed their year of probation.

Suo patri devotus filius id quod potest obedientiæ, reverentiæ, et honoris. Quia sex novitiorum qui jam per annum in Ecclesia vestra Cantuariensi gestantes habitum monachalem laudabiliter in religione steterunt, et in festo Sci. Lucæ Evangelistæ proximo venturo annum probationis complebunt, disiderant solempniter profiteri; paternitatem vestram suppliciter deprecor et devote, quatinus si ipsorum novitiorum professionem personaliter admittere decreveritis, velitis innotescere mihi vestro. Si autem, aliis præpediti negotiis, ad id faciendum non poteritis commode tunc vacare, placeat vobis pro hujusmodi ministerio exequendo mihi committere vices vestras, prout in casu consimili fieri consuevit. Valeat et vigeat vestra salus in prosperitate felici. Dat. Cant., &c.

S. 92.

23.—[Præsentatio ad Ecclesiam pensionariam vacantem.]

Formula. The Chapter present a clerk to the Archbishop for institution to a benefice which is charged with an annual pension

Reverendissimo in Christo patri ac domino Domino J. Dei gratia Cantuariensi Archiepiscopo, etc. vestri humiles et devoti J. Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis et ejusdem loci Capitulum, obedientiam, etc. Ad ecclesiam parochialem Sancti Johannis Evangelistæ, Civitatis Londoniensis, vacantem et ad nostram præsentationem spectantem, dilectum nobis in Christo Dominum J. F., capellanum, vestræ reverendissimæ paternitati præsentamus; humiliter supplicantes pari-

ter et devote, quatinus dictum J. F. ad dictam Ecclesiam admittere, et ipsum rectorem instituere canonice in eadem, ceteraque peragere quæ vestro incumbunt officio pastorali, dignetur vestra paternitas prælibata; quam ad ecclesiæ suæ sanctæ regimen et munimen diu conservet in prosperis Trinitas indivisa. Salva nobis et successoribus nostris annua pensione duodecim denariorum, nobis ab antiquo debita et consueta. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum nostrum commune præsentibus duximus apponendum. Dat. in domo nostro capitulari, etc.

payable to them as the patrons.

24.—Littera testimonialis rectoris per quem patronum fuit præsentatus.

L. 119 *b*.

Universis pateat per presentes quod ego Johannes de Ros clericus, ad ecclesiam quæ dicitur Beatæ Mariæ de Aldermaricherche in Londoniis vacantem, per venerabiles et religiosos viros dominos Priorem et Capitulum Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis nuper extiti præsentatus, salvis annua portione vj. marcarum Sacristæ ecclesiæ Christi prædictæ ad quatuor anni terminos principales per æquales portiones, et annua pensione viij. solidorum et iiij^{or} denariorum Thesaurariis dictæ Ecclesiæ Cantuariensis in festo Sci. Michælis prædictis Priori et Capitulo de dicta ecclesia Beatæ Mariæ debitis et consuetis, singulis annis reddendis et solvendis. Et ego prædictus Johannes corporale præstiti juramentum, quod si contigerit me ad dictam ecclesiam Beatæ Mariæ admitti et rectorem institui in eadem, quod ego hujusmodi pensionem sex marcarum prædicto Sacristæ, et dictam pensionem viij. solidorum et iiij. denariorum dictis Thesaurariis singulis annis reddere et persolvere,[1] ad terminos suprascriptos. Et hæc omnibus quorum interest notifico per præsentes. In cujus, etc. Dat. etc.

Formula. The undertaking given to the patron presenting him by the new rector of a *pensionary* or *portionary* church.

[1] *red. et persol.*, sic. Ms.

L. 119 *b*. 25.—Caucio rectoris de juramento præstito de pensione ecclesiæ suæ solvenda patrono.

Formula. Certificate given to the patron by the rector of a *pensionary* or *portionary* church testifying that he has actually paid the *portion* and *pension*, thus binding his successors to do the same.

Universis pateat per præsentes quod ego Johannes de Ros rector ecclesiæ Beatæ Mariæ quæ dicitur Aldermaricherche in Londoniis per venerabiles et religiosos viros, dominos Prior et Capitulum ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis ad dictam ecclesiam Beatæ Mariæ dudum extiti præsentatus, et ad ipsam præsentationem in eadem ecclesia rector canonice institutus, salvis annua portione sex marcarum Sacristæ ecclesiæ Christi prædictæ ad quatuor anni terminos principales per æquales portiones, et annua pensione viij. solidorum et iiij. denariorum Thesaurariis dictæ ecclesiæ Cantuariensis in festo Sci. Michælis prædictis Priori et Capitulo de dicta ecclesia Beatæ Mariæ debitis et consuetis singulis annis reddendis et solvendis. Quas quidem portionem sex marcarum et pensionem octo solidorum et iiij^{or} denariorum ego Johannes prædictus, toto tempore quo dictam ecclesiam Beatæ Mariæ tenui, singulis annis prædictis Sacristæ et Thesaurariis reddidi et persolvi ad terminos præscriptos. Et hæc omnibus quorum interest notifico per præsentes. In cujus, etc. Dat. etc. anno tali, etc.

c. 1210. 26.—[Amicus ad amicum clericum Archiepiscopi.]

L.B. 260. The Prior (?) writing to someone in the Archbishop's household encloses letters to be delivered to the Archbishop.

Suo suus W. quod sibi. Scripsit mihi Dominus Archiepiscopus ut cum mandato et litteris suis ad Abbatem Westmonasterii accederemus; rescribo nunc ei quid super hoc actum sit; de meo negotio verbum unum adjiciens ut ex ipsis litteris potestis advertere. Et quia ad offerendum ei litteras meas et tempus spectandum credo et locum, juxta illud poetæ, "cum "validus cum lætus erit" introducetis ad eum puerum istum. Et litteras meas legetis. Et quid de

. . . . . mihi per litteras vestras nuntietis. Quod si Decano suo vel Officiali scribendum duxerit de interdicto relaxando, instruatis puerum istum quid agere debeat. Bene valere vos opto Rarissime Roberte. Quid etiam super negotio vestro actum sit scire desidero.

To an official communication he says he has added just one word on his own affairs.

27.—PROMISSIO COMITUM ET BARONUM MULTORUM SUB SIGILLIS SUIS QUOD FACIENT REGEM JOHANNEM FIRMITER TENERE PACTUM QUOD FECIT DE PACE ET SECURITATE NOBIS ET NOSTRIS CONCESSIS. 1213. Chart. Antiq. C. 254.

Viris venerabilibus et amicis in Christo dilectis Priori et monachis Ecclesiæ Sanctæ Trinitatis Cantuariensis, G. filius Petri Comes Essexiæ Justiciarius, R. Comes Boloniæ, R. Comes Cestriæ, W. Comes Warennæ, W. Marescallus Comes Pembrochiæ, W. Comes Arundelliæ, W. Comes de Ferrariis, Willelmus Brewer, Robertus de Ros, Gillebertus filius R. ejusdem, Rogerius de Mortuomari, et Petrus filius Herberti, salutem, et debitam reverenciam. Sciatis quod bona fide studebimus quod dominus noster Johannes Rex Angliæ pactum et securitatem nobis et aliis, tam clericis quam laicis, negocium quod inter Ecclesiam Anglicanam et ipsum Regem versatum est contingentibus, firmiter observabit; secundum formam pacis ei a Domino Papa transmissam et ab eo acceptam. Et si forte, quod Deus avertat, Rex ipse, vel aliquis alius ex parte sua, contravenerit, nos pro Ecclesia contra violatores securitatis et pacis mandatis apostolicis inhærebimus, et ipse perpetuo vacancium ecclesiarum custodiam amittat. Præterea promittimus quod siquid omissum est vel minus plene factum circa hoc negocium in hoc scripto, propter acceleracionem adventus vestri in Angliam, id cum veneritis secundum prædictam formam perficietur. Et in hujus rei testimonium has litteras nostras patentes vobis transmittimus.

Twelve of the great Barons of England undertake to compel King John to keep his promises made in favour of the Church of England.

Valete in Domino. Hæc autem omnia, sicut supradicta sunt, firmiter nos observaturos, noveritis nos, de mandato Domini Regis, tactis sacrosanctis Ewangeliis, spontanea voluntate, corporali juramento firmasse. Iterum bene valete.[1]

19 July (1296.)

28.—[LITTERÆ CARDINALIUM PRO CONSECRATIONE W(ALTERI) DE LANGETON.]

Cart. Ant. A. 189 *a*.

The Papal Nuntii ask the Chapter to allow Walter de Langton, Bishop elect of Coventry, to be consecrated at Paris, where he is detained by their authority.

Miseratione divina B. Albanensis et S. Penestrensis Episcopi, discretis viris Priori et Capitulo Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, salutem, et sinceram in Domino caritatem. Cum dilectum capellanum nostrum Magistrum Walterum de Langueton, Electum Coventrensem et Lichefeldensem, illustris Regis Angliæ Thesaurarium, pro urgentibus negotiis nobis ab Apostolica Sede commissis, nobiscum, prout ex concessione Apostolica de prælatis et aliis personis ecclesiasticis ad nos pro præmissis negotiis evocandis et retinendis, etiam nobis habeamus necessario in hiis partibus retinere, et pro suæ consecrationis suscipiendo munere nequeat in Angliam se transferre, discretionem vestram deprecamur attente, quatinus, ut idem, cujus absentia carere non possumus, quæque præfatis negotiis impedimentum afferret non modicum, in partibus hiis consecrationis munus recipere valeat vestrum præbere velitis assensum; Ecclesiæ vestræ constitutione contraria non obstante. Data Parisiis xiiij. kalas. Augusti.

7 Aug. 1296.

29.—TRANSCRIPTUM LITTERÆ MISSÆ CARDINALIBUS PRO CONSECRATIONE W(ALTERI) DE LANGETON.

Ant. Cart. A. 189 *b*.

Patribus reverendis et dominis in Christo karissimis, Dominis B. Albanensi et S. Penestrensi Dei gratia

[1] This, the original letter, authenticated by the seals of the Barons still attached, was sent to the Convent, in exile at the time at Pontigny, and brought back to England with them soon after it was received.

Ecclesiarum Episcopis, et Sacrosanctæ Romanæ Ecclesiæ Cardinalibus, suus devotus Robertus permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, totius Angliæ Primas, salutem, et ad beneplacita se paratum, cum honore, et reverentia tantis patribus debita et devota. Super eo quod vestris nuper litteris deprecatoriis nos rogastis, ut Domino Waltero de Langeton, Coventrensi et Lichefeldensi Electo per nos nuper confirmato, quem pro commissis vobis ab Apostolica Sede negotiis ad vos, prout per sedem prædictam de prælatis et aliis personis ecclesiasticis vobis conceditur, evocastis, et quem habetis necessario pro eisdem negotiis per aliqua tempora retinere, munus consecrationis a quibuscunque Episcopis catholicis vellet recipiendi licentiam largiremur, certum adhuc nuntio vestro nequimus intimare responsum, præcipue cum de facto hujusmodi, nobis novo ac penitus inaudito, Capituli nostri prius, ratione multiplici, sit requirendus assensus; quos tam recenter post litterarum vestrarum exhibitionem, propter distantiam longam et viæ asperæ et montuose discrimen, nobis facultas oportuna non patuit consulendi, sed ipsis super hoc, oportune et ea qua potuerimus celeritate, consultis, et cum consilio nostro, undique ut moris est in instanti tempore autumpnali disperso, deliberatione præhabita, responsum certum pro modulo nostræ possibilitatis idoneum tam vobis quam dicto Electo proponimus plenius intimare. Satis quoque patenter et oculate conspicimus quantum imineret dispendium si memoratum Electum redire contigerit, ut scripsistis, set, ne exinde quoquo modo turbemini, vobis certitudinaliter intimamus, quod ipsius Electi, ut prænotatur, absentiam, tanquam legitime impediti, quo ad præmissa sufficienter habebimus, prout etiam haberi debebit a singulis judicium rationis habentibus, excusatam, ac etiam pro tanto reipublicæ commodo merito commendatam, præcipue cum hujusmodi sua absentia per vestram vocationem auctoritate Sedis

Apostolicæ, prout in litteris vestris sufficienter exprimitis, amplius ad excusationem idoneam roboretur. De hoc quoque vobis, Domine Albanensis, pro parte tetigimus quando simul exinde ultimo tractabamus. Valete semper in Christo Jesu. Data apud Suthmalling vij^mo Idus Augusti, anno Dni. MCC. nonagesimo sexto.

14 July 1297.

30.—Exhortatio pro novitiis recipiendis.

Cart. Ant. A. 193 *c.*

The Convent of Christ Church being deficient of 30 of its proper number of monks, the Archbishop urges the Prior to select proper candidates to fill the vacancies.

Robertus permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, &c., dilectis filiis Priori et Capitulo Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, &c. Licet super augmendo numero monachorum Conventus nostri in Ecclesia memorata, jam triginta personis enormiter mutilati, fuissetis per nos sollicite et pluries hactenus excitati; ipse tamen numerus sic diminutus nondum est adhuc, prout debet et expedit, restitutus; propter quod in eadem Ecclesia cultus attenuatur divinus, et jugum laborantium jugiter in eadem difficilius supportatur. Cum igitur, sapiente doctrina testante, *in multitudine populi sit dignitas regis et in paucitate plebis ignominia principis*, vos monemus et hortamur in Domino Jesu Christo et districte mandamus, quatinus præfatum Conventum ad antiquum et debitum numerum monachorum, cum omni qua potueris commoda celeritate, per suppletionem congruarum personarum, vigilanti studio reducatis; ut contra hostem multiformis nequitiæ multiplicetur exercitus bellatorum; modicum enim vel nullum ex hujusmodi eclipsi quoad sumptus vestros annuatim sentire vos credimus relevamen, sicut vestra assertione recepimus manifeste. Nec electionis vel acceptionis personarum vos in hac parte aliqualiter in tam pio actu impediat difficultas, dumtámen aliqualis probabilitas personis assumendis per fidedignorum testimonium seu per aliam notitiam suffragetur, sicut videmus in aliis ordinibus fieri hiis diebus propter defectum electarum personarum, quæ

ante hæc tempora solebant per mundum frequentius inveniri. In prosecutione hujus mandati nostri sic curetis diligentius vos habere, ne propter vestram remissionem seu negligentiam in hac parte cogamur mandatum strictius vobis alias dirigere pro negotio memorato. Datum apud Cherring, xviij° Kalendas Julii, consecrationis nostræ anno quarto.

31.—De novitiis recipiendis honestæ vitæ et laudabilis conversationis.

15 Sept. 1298.

Cart. Ant. A. 193 *e.*

Robertus permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, &c., dilecto filio Priori nostro Cantuariensi, salutem, &c. Quia in altari sub lege Mosayca constructo diversarum specierum animalia de die in diem pro populo illo per ministros illi altari deputatos consueverunt offerri, secundum ritum legis; in altari vero sub lege ewangelica ordinato totus Christus, verus Deus et homo, omni die offertur pro populo Christiano per ministros ewangelicos, decet ut ministri nostri prædicti tanto majori polleant sanctitate in mente et honestate in corpore, quanto hostia nostra ewangelica sanctior est hostia legali, et altare nostrum altari illo esse honestius comprobatur. Cum igitur Dominus, per legis latorem Moysen, moneat ministros altaris legalis esse sanctos interius in mente, cum eis dictum sit illud: *estote sancti ego sanctus sum dicit Dominus*: moneat etiam illos esse honestos exterius in corpore, dicendo alibi: *nullus habens maculam vel deformitatem notabilem in corpore præsumat accedere ad altare:* apparet manifeste quantam diligentiam pro modernis temporibus impendere debemus, ut ministri altaris nostri tales provideantur qui sint in vita sancti, quatenus de eorum sanctitate humana fragilitas potest cognoscere; et sine deformitate corporali honesti, quod omnibus eos intuentibus potest de facili apparere. Quia igitur intelleximus quod vos, unacum

The Archbishop, quoting the analogy of the law of Moses in its selection of victims, warns the Prior to make careful selection of persons pure in mind and perfect in body before introducing them to the Benedictine order.

consilio et solicitudine confratrum vestrorum, proponitis recipere quosdam ad habitum vestrum, deservituros altari Ecclesiæ nostræ Cantuariensis, Domino concedente, vos monemus et hortamur in Domino Jesu Christo, quatinus ad hoc operam vestram detis, ut illi qui per vos recipiendi sunt bonæ sint vitæ secundum judicium humanum, et honesti in corpore, sicut decet ministros tam celebris Ecclesiæ pollere undique honestate. Volumus autem quod, ex parte nostra, illud dicatis commonachis vestris, inhibentes eis per nos, ne aliquis eorum propter aliquam affectionem carnalem, seu aliam inordinatam, præsumat aliquem introducere in Ecclesiam nostram nisi præditum conditionibus prænominatis. Valete. Datum apud Slyndon, die Martis post festum Exaltationis Sanctæ Crucis, anno consecrationis nostræ quinto. Mittimus vobis quasdam litteras pridie nobis directas per Dominum Robertum de Bardelby, quarum tenore inspecto, faciatis quod vobis visum fuerit expedire. Sub sigillo nostro privato.

11 Sept. 1299.

32.—De reversione Domini Archiepiscopi de Scocia.

Cart. Ant. A. 189 *d.*

The Archbishop appoints a date at which he will be ready to meet the Prior at Otford to discuss matters relating to the Convent and Church. He has

Robertus permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus totius Angliæ Primas dilectis filiis Priori et Capitulo Ecclesiæ nostræ Cantuariensis salutem, gratiam, et benedictionem. Exposito seriosius Domino Regi apud Kaerlaverok in Scocia per nos, viarum et aquarum discriminibus et periculis variis fatigatos, papali nuntio nobis injuncto, transeuntes per Eboracensem provinciam et juxta civitatem ipsam, præcedente nos sanctæ crucis vexillo erecto, die Sabati ante receptionem litterarum vestrarum, Dei gratia, in provinciam nostram absque impedimento venimus incolumes et robusti sine dampno. Verumptamen arduorum negotiorum nos et Ecclesiam nostram Cantuariensem con-

tingentium contra usurpationes religiosorum virorum Sancti Augustini Cantuariæ non immemores, statim ante ingressum in provinciam nostram, deliberato consilio, apud manerium nostrum de Otteford super hoc tractare decrevimus in adventu nostro ibidem, vobis et quibusdam de vestris, una cum aliis de consilio nostro ad ipsum locum, quamcitius venerimus, convocandis; quem quidem adventum nostrum et tractatus diem vobis significabimus; ad partes illas, ceteris prætermissis, ea occasione quamcito potuerimus properantes, ubi de professione novitiorum vestrorum ordinabimus competenter. Valete semper in Christo. Data apud Wylughton in Lyndeseya, distante a Lincolnia versus provinciam Eboracensem per duodecim leucas, iij° Idus Septembris, consecrationis nostræ anno sexto.

just left the King at Caerlaverock, and has succeeded in passing unmolested through the province of York preceded by his cross borne erect.

33.—De magistro J. de Sancto Claro.

16 Feb. 1299.

Cart. Ant. A. 193*f*.

Robertus permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, etc. dilectis filiis Priori et Capitulo Ecclesiæ nostræ Cantuariensis, salutem, etc. Tales Ecclesiæ nostre et vobis decet consiliarios assistere quorum fides et opinio non vacillet, quorumque paterna machinatio a veri consilii soliditate vos nequeat removere. Cum igitur intellexerimus vos velle Johannem de Sancto Claro, cujus conditionem, mores, et gestus non credimus vobis aut Ecclesiæ nostræ profuturos, consiliarium vestrum facere, et pro obsequiis suis Ecclesiæ nostræ beneficiarium constituere in annua pensione, admirari non sufficimus, cujus utilitatis consideratio, vel forsan, ut verisimiliter conjecturamus, quorundam fautorum suorum inductio vestros in eum affectionum intuitus convertisset. Optantes igitur ut Ecclesia nostra, felicis consilii ducta regimine, semper a noxiis præservetur, in quantum potuerit præcaveri; vobis in virtute obedientiæ qua nobis tenemini et sub interminatione

The Archbishop, hearing that the Chapter have proposed to retain J. de St. Clair as their counsel, assigning to him an annual pension, forbids them to do so, asserting that he is an opponent of the Church.

anathematis, districtius inhibemus, ne id quod, quorundam forsan suasionibus, circa ejus allectionem facere concepistis ad effectum aliqualiter perducatis, aut consensum volentibus sua circa hæc vota perficere præbeatis; cum jurium Ecclesiæ nostræ, matris suæ, oppugnatorem non ignotum magis teneamini pro viribus devitare. Valete semper in Christo. Datum apud Terryng, xiij° Kalendas Martii, anno Dni. MCC. nonagesimo nono, consecrationis nostræ sexto.

(c. 1300.)

34.—[De cipho insufficienti misso Domino Archiepiscopo.]

Cart. Ant. A. 189*e*.

A Clerk of the Archbishop's household to the Prior, who has sent for presentation to the Archbishop so mean a gift that his correspondent has intercepted it, and forged an excuse for its absence.

Devotum animum obsequendi cum reverentia subjuncta. Ecce Domine, quia de me ut tuo confiditis, viso illo cipho quem misistis Domino præsentando, habita consideratione ad statum et honorem vestri mittentis, et ad convenientiam illius ad quem mittebatur, item, ad hoc, quod prius sibi nullum donarium miseratis, consului Magistrum J. de Bruyton, Cancellarium Domini et quem novi secretum et affectum ad vos, item, et Magistrum R. de Norton vobis benevolum, eis ostendens ciphum illum; qui inde mecum deliberantes dixerunt finaliter, quod non deceret honorem vestrum de tam modico donario respicere tantum dominum, qui, ut norunt, suam ad vos affectionem totaliter jam convertit. Et sic de horum consilio, excusatione inventa et fabricata, postmodum in collatione habita coram Domino de illo bedello et responso faciendo in ea parte, dictum fuit quod nuntius vester dimiserat apud Mepham ciphum ipsum, quia tarde per locum illum transiens ciphum ulterius portare non audebat. Ad quod Dominus respondens dixit: "certe " nos jam nunc biduum deliberavimus sibi mittere " ciphum unum:" vos in dictorum magistrorum absentia[1] multipliciter commendando, ipsis magistris commendationibus suis adjicientibus laudem dignam,

[1] *præsentia?*

ita quod finaliter ipse Dominus præcepit vobis rescribi, ad reliquam partem litteræ vestræ; et sic studiose salvatus est honor vester, ubi ex præsentatione ciphi illius modici ad vos forsitan affectio Domini tepuisset. In omni tranquillitatis gaudio vigeat vestra salus. Domine si placet ipsum Dominum honorificentius respicere cogitetis.

35.—[De chrismate non deliberando.]

29 April 1303.

Cart. Ant. A. 193 *h*.

The Archbishop forbids the Chapter of Christ Church to communicate chrism or other consecrated accessories of worship to their rivals of St. Augustine's Abbey.

Robertus permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, etc., dilectis filiis Priori et Capitulo Ecclesiæ nostræ Cantuariensis, salutem, etc. Inhibemus vobis ne adversariis dictæ Ecclesiæ, monachis de Sancto Augustino, vel eorum ministris, aut aliis quibuscunque ipsorum nomine, oleum sanctum, crisma, vel aliud quodcunque spirituale liberetis, ne omnino nobis et vobis ac Ecclesiæ nostræ adversantibus, in hiis vel in aliis ad eorum relevamen, eis aliqualiter suffragetur. Valete semper in Christo. Datum apud Stebenhethe iiij^to^ Kalendas Aprilis, anno Dni. M^o^CCC^mo^ tertio, consecrationis nostræ nono.

36.—Pro exequiis Comitis Warennæ faciendis.

21 Oct. 1304.

Cart. Ant. A. 193 *b*.

The Archbishop, reciting the King's letter to the same effect, requires the Prior to cause religious services to be performed for the soul

Robertus permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, etc. dilectis filiis Priori et Capitulo Ecclesiæ nostræ Cantuariensis, salutem, etc. Litteras supplicatorias excellentissimi principis Domini Regis Angliæ illustris nuper recepimus, infrascriptum tenorem habentes.

"Edwardus Dei gratia Rex Angliæ, etc., venerabili in Christo patri R. eadem gratia Cantuariensi Archiepiscopo, totius Angliæ Primati, salutem. Cum opus pium et coram Deo meritorium censeatur pro defunctis jugiter exorare, ut sic a peccatorum suorum nexibus facilius liberarentur; ac carissimus consanguineus

of Earl Warenne, deceased.

noster Johannes quondam Comes Warennæ, qui nobis et regno nostro semper utilis extitit et fidelis, viam universæ carnis jam, sicut Altissimo placuit, sit ingressus, quod vobis non sine cordis amaritudine nuntiamus, paternitatem vestram affectuosis precibus requirimus et rogamus, quatinus animam præfati Comitis a religiosis et aliis ecclesiasticis viris, subditis vestris per totam vestram diœcesim et vestram Cantuariensem provinciam constitutis, per missarum sollempnia et aliarum orationum suffragia faciatis divinæ misericordiæ commendari; vestras super hoc litteras et mandata suffraganeis vestris, Episcopis et aliis penes quos expedire videritis, celeriter dirigendo. Teste meipso apud Thresk, quarto die Octobris anno regni nostri xxxij^do."

Cum itaque regalis instantia, fervor zeli quem dictum nobilem scimus erga rem publicam habuisse, pietas et compassio quas defunctis debemus, necnon specialis affectio quam experti sumus in pluribus erga nos ipsum gessisse, movere nos debeant ut ipsum defunctum suffragiis ecclesiasticis adjuvemus, vobis committimus et mandamus, quatinus in dicta ecclesia nostra sollempnes exequias, missas, et orationes alias pro anima dicti defuncti et animabus omnium defunctorum celebretis et faciatis celebrari devote, et cetera fieri per quæ animæ dictorum defunctorum sentire valeant relevamen. Datum apud Wengham xij° Kalendas Novembris, anno Dni. MCCC. quarto, consecrationis nostræ undecimo.

1 Mar. 1306.

37.—De cruce Eboracensi.

Cart. Ant.

The Prior is required by the Archbishop to

Robertus permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, etc. dilecto filio Priori Ecclesiæ nostræ Cantuariensis salutem, etc. Quia intelleximus quod Eboracensis Archiepiscopus in brevi ad propria redire proponit, et per diœcesim nostram ac provinciam,

erecta cruce, repente transire, in libertatis Ecclesiæ nostræ præjudicium et contemptum; prædecessorum nostrorum vestigiis inhærentes, discretioni vestræ firmiter injungendo committimus et mandamus, quatinus, in hac parte pro Ecclesiæ nostræ juribus sollicite vigilantes, de applicatione ejusdem cum omni cautela qua poteritis diligenter inquiratis; et cum applicuerit, ipsum Archiepiscopum, modis omnibus quibus honeste poteritis, et sibi adhærentes in hac parte moneatis efficaciter et inducatis, quod ab ipsa bajulatione crucis per diœcesim vel provinciam nostram omnino desistant, nichil in nostri et Ecclesiæ nostræ præjudicium super hoc attemptando; hoc idem singulis decanis et rectoribus ac aliis jurisdictionibus locorum per quæ ipsum transitum facere contigerit firmiter injungendo. Alioquin omnia loca ipsa per quæ erecta cruce transitum fecerit seu moram supponatis ecclesiastico interdicto. Inhibeatis seu inhiberi faciatis omnibus subditis nostris, sub pœna excommunicationis, ne se ad ejus benedictionem taliter incedentis inclinent, seu in tali transitu vel mora campanas pulsari sustineant, aut ipsius præsumptionibus faveant quovis modo, præsumptores in contrarium per quascunque censuras ecclesiasticas compescendo; ne saltem loca jurisdictionis nostræ videatur in nostri præjudicium libere et pacifice taliter pertransire, et nos per dissimulationes hujusmodi videamur ipsius injuriæ consentire. Et quid feceritis in præmissis nos, ipso negotio feliciter expedito, distincte et aperte certificetis per litteras vetsras patentes harum seriem continentes. Datum apud Lamhegh, Kalendis Martii anno Dni. M°CCC^mo quinto, consecrationis nostræ xij°.

warn all ecclesiastical authorities in his district to prevent the Archbishop of York from passing through the diocese of Canterbury with his cross borne before him, or with any other marks of pontifical dignity.

c. 1307. L.B. 59.

38.—Religioso viro ac domino reverendo Domino Priori Cantuariensi.

An adviser and patron of the Convent thanks the Prior for a liberal fee.

Quid potuerit subditus et servitor. Largitate vestra reali meum obsequium prævenistis, unde dilectioni vestræ benignæ magis astringerer si quid possem, interim regratians reverenter, et cum tempus acciderit opportunum, Dei gratia mediante, cordialiter serviturus. Intellexi quod affectat vestra magna benevolentia me videre, de quo regratior quantum possum, et spero post festum Sancti Michaelis ad præsentiam vestram accedere, et de vestris prosperis collætari. In tumultuantibus fluctibus mundi hujus vos et vestros Sancta Trinitas incolumes diu servet. Scriptum Lincolniæ, die Sabbati proximo post festum Assumptionis Virginis gloriosæ.—Suus N. de Tarenta.

1307 or 1309.

39.—[De consecratione Electi Bangoriensis extra Cantuariam, licentia non petita.]

Chart Antiq. C. 1294 *j*.

The Bishop of Rochester has been summoned to the consecration at Leicester of a Bishop of Bangor, a suffragan of Canterbury, who proposes to be there consecrated in prejudice of the rights of the Canterbury Church.

Reverendo in Christo patri, Domino Henrico Priori Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, Frater Thomas, Dei permissione modicus sacerdos Roffensis, salutem in salutis Auctore. Recepimus litteras vestras, hoc die Sabbati post mensam apud Hallyng juxta Roffam; et quia litteram, super vocatione consecrationi Domini Electi Bangoriensis apud Leycestriam faciendæ, non habemus ad præsens, misimus Londonias pro transcripto litteræ antedictæ; quam quidem litteram hac die Sabbati quidam noster clericus secum portans civitatem adivit, tractaturus cum peritis de tenore, qui, ut videtur, indecenter est conceptus; et quamcito dictum tenorem habuerimus, vobis mittere non tardabimus quoquo modo per nostrum puerum, sub nostro signaculo inclusum. Pater, credebamus quod illa littera vocationis de vestro consensu totaliter emanasset, sed, ut advertimus per id quod scribitis, est vobis dicta

vocatio suspecta, habebitis transcriptum, per Dei gratiam, infra triduum vel quatriduum, ut deliberare plenius et consultius possitis. De ceteris in vestris litteris contentis vobis scribemus, et mittemus alias cum dictum recepimus transcriptum, quod est mirabile, ut videtur. Bene valeat dominus et amicus. Datum apud Hallyng die Sabbati supradicto.

40.—Littera Domini Archiepiscopi de uno clerico promovendo per quemlibet Episcopo ab ipso confirmato. 9 Jan. 1309. Cart. Ant. A. 193 *a*.

Robertus permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, etc., venerabili fratri Domino R. Dei gratia Episcopo Elyensi, salutem, et sinceram in Domino caritatem. Sancta Cantuariensis Ecclesia, vestræ Ecclesiæ metropolitica, quæ præ ceteris occidentalibus ecclesiis quampluribus privilegiis, libertatibus, ac consuetudinibus laudabilibus abolim fuerat, et adhuc est, multipliciter insignita, tot diris et variis oppressionibus ac calumpniis adversantium est subjecta, quod, nisi sapientum sibi assistentium præsidio fulciretur, resistere non sufficeret insidiantibus et insultantibus ex adverso. Et ideo ut, aucto suorum numero defensorum quietius gaudeat juribus adquisitis, et solidius occurrat insidiosis jaculis invadentium et opponentium sua jura, pie et laudabiliter per consuetudinem est inductum, quod singuli ejusdem Ecclesiæ suffraganei, qui jurium libertatum et consuetudinum ipsius adjutores et defensores tenentur existere, ex sui vinculo juramenti quod præstant cum professionem faciunt consuetam, unum clericum idoneum, ipsis per eum qui præest reginini ipsius Ecclesiæ nominatum, tenentur, cum facultas se obtulerit post nominationem hujusmodi, ad competens beneficium promovere. Qua consuetudine laudabili atque pia, usque ad hæc tempora per eosdem suffraganeos approbata, dicta Ecclesia nos et alii qui ejusdem

The formal monition of the Archbishop addressed to R. Oxford Bishop of Ely, requiring him under penalty of ecclesiastical censures to provide a competent benefice for a clerk nominated by the Archbishop, in fulfilment of a custom by which every newly consecrated bishop of the province of Canterbury was bound to promote a clerk upon the

Archbishop's nomination.

Ecclesiæ regimini præfuerunt gavisi fuimus, et usi hactenus inconcusse. Hæc, licet omnia et singula per regni hujus climata esse publica et notoria dinoscantur, vos tamen non advertentes, quod nedum ad adjuvandum et defendendum jura et libertates nostras et Ecclesiæ nostræ, sed etiam prædictam et alias consuetudines ipsius, ex vinculo juramenti quod in professione nobis et Ecclesiæ nostræ Cantuariensi prædictæ per vos olim facta corporaliter præstitistis, estis, sicut alii nostri suffraganei, obligati, quadam præsumptione non modicum effrenata, in juris et quietæ possessionis nostri et Ecclesiæ nostræ sanctæ prædictæ præjudicium, vestræque professionis periculum manifestum, dilectum filium Willelmum de Beccles, clericum ydoneum ad ecclesiasticum beneficium obtinendum, quem dudum, juxta vim dictæ consuetudinis et juris nobis et Ecclesiæ nostræ competentis, ut per vos competens beneficium assequeretur duxerimus nominandum, quamvis prædictæ consuetudinis, juris, et quietæ possessionis, ignorantiam prætendere minime valeatis, cum sunt publica et notoria, ut eundem juxta vires consuetudinis antedictæ ad competens beneficium promovere, immo nec ut per vos promoveretur admittere curastis; sed, acuentes ut gladium linguam vestram, in verba contumeliosa vobis non congruentia suggillantia famam nostram illico prorumpens, præmissa facere expresse et contemptibiliter recusastis, prout in publico instrumento super hoc confecto plenius est contentum. Et licet inobedientiam hujusmodi potuissemus a diu est canonice punivisse, contra vosque, tanquam jurium nostræ Cantuariensis Ecclesiæ violatorem, merito processisse; tunc tamen sperantes quod professionem vestram ad memoriam reducere volebatis, et deinde facere cum omni promptitudine quod negastis, quicquam contra vos distulimus attemptare; sed volentes in ea parte in semitis justitiæ dirigere gressus vestros, ad cor revertendo et agendo pœnitentiæ dignos fructus,

quod vobis facere incumbit implere hactenus noluistis, licet diutius expectati. Verum cum non valeamus ulterius nostri juris et quietæ possessionis prædictorum tam manifestam injuriam tolerare; ne prædicta consuetudo, quæ tam rationabile et pium tamque juri conveniens cepit exordium, aut quieta possessio ejusdem exulet, aut nostris temporibus obfuscetur, vobis, in virtute obedientiæ firmiter injungendo, mandamus quatinus supradictum clericum nostrum, quem ad obtinendum per vos beneficium vobis iterum nominavimus, juxta vim et effectum prædictæ consuetudinis, in cujus quieta possessione nos existimus et qui rigimini nostræ Ecclesiæ præfuerunt suis temporibus extiterunt, quaque usi sumus hactenus pacifice et quiete, infra tres dies a tempore receptionis præsentium continue numerandos (quorum primum pro primo, secundum pro secundo, et tertium pro tertio) et peremptorio canonicæ monitionis edicto, vobis tenore præsentium assignamus, cum natura negotii dilationem non expetat longiorem, admittere ad competens beneficium ipsum, si facultas se offerat illico, alioquin cum se obtulerit conferendum, juxta morem præteriti temporis, non tardetis. De die vero receptionis præsentium, et an mandatum nostrum prædictum exequi volueritis, quidque in præmissis parendo aut non parendo duxeritis faciendum, nos, cessante fictione qualibet seu quæsito colore quomodolibet vel quærendo, infra quindecim dies a tempore receptionis præsentium, quorum vobis quinque pro primo, et quinque pro secundo, et reliquos quinque pro tertio, et peremptorio similiter monitionis edicto canonice assignamus, non perfunctorie vel obscure sed distincte et aperte, per litteras vestras patentes, harum seriem continentes, curetis reddere certiores. Nos enim, præscriptis canonicis monitionibus præmissis, si præmissa omnia non feceritis, seu facere neglexeritis, aut aliquod præmissorum, in personam vestram extunc majoris

excommunicationis sententiam, cum vestræ nimiæ contumaciæ protervitas in hac parte præcesserit atque culpa, præferimus in hiis scriptis. Data apud Otteford v^to^ Idus Januarii, anno Dni. MCCC. nono, consecrationis nostræ xvj^to^.

Prædictus episcopus mortuus fuit antequam ista littera pervenit ad eum.

41.—Littera Credenciæ.

25 April 1314.

Chart. Antiq. C. 1294 *h*.

The Archbishop, unable personally to carry out some corrections which he had intended as a result of his visitation, deputes the Canterbury monk whom, in accordance with ancient custom, he keepsabout his person, to act for him.

Walterus permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, totius Angliæ Primas, dilecto filio Priori Ecclesiæ nostræ cathedralis Cantuariensis, salutem, gratiam, et benedictionem. Cum nuper debitum visitationis officium apud vos egeremus, quædam quæ correctione digna comperimus vestræ discretioni commisimus reformanda; ac de nonnullis, statum vestrum et totius monasterii concernentibus, proposuimus personaliter disposuisse; set, supervenientibus impedimentis variis, præpediti sumus quominus hiis intendere valeamus, et icirco, dilectum filium, commonachum vestrum et nostrum capellanum specialem, Dominum Galfridum Poterel, quem regulares observantias et secretiora religionis nosse non ambigitur, ad vos destinamus, ut nostræ voluntatis intentio,[1] vobis per eum insinuat, quam etiam alias, si recolitis, vobis expressimus viva voce, fiat salubriter et statuatur; præcipue circa Thesaurarios et custodes forinsecos, ac quædam alia vobis per eum intimanda; quod ad honorem Dei, monasterii profectum, et status ejusdem relevamen, fieri decet et expedit. Taliter autem in præmissis vos habere studeatis, ut de nostra visitatione profectum ad effectum salubre, quem intimius optamus, vestra diligentia, pervenire videamus. Hanc semper cautelam adhibentes, ut, per benignitatem et compassionis viscera, rigor disciplinæ moderamen assumat. Et quid in præmissis feceritis nobis distincte

[1] *intentionem, insinuatam*, MS.

seriatim, et aperte, rescribere non tardetis. Datum, apud Tenham vij° Kalendas Maii, anno Domini MCCCXIIIJ°.

42.—LITTERA DIRECTA HEREFORDENSI EPISCOPO PER LONDONIENSEM EPISCOPUM UT IPSE INTERSIT CONSECRATIONI ASSAVENSIS EPISCOPI.

3 Jan. 1315.

Cart. Ant. A. 193 *d.*

The Bishop of London, reciting the Archbishop's mandate, summons a suffragan of the province to be present at the consecration of a bishop in Canterbury Cathedral Church.

Venerabili in Christo patri Domino (Ricardo) Dei gratia Herefordensi Episcopo, Gilbertus permissione divina Londoniensis Episcopus, salutem, et fraternæ caritatis continuum incrementum. Litteras venerabilis patris Domini Walteri Dei gratia Cantuariensis Archiepiscopi, totius Angliæ Primatis recepimus, tenorem qui sequitur continentes. "Walterus permissione, etc. venerabili fratri Domino G. Dei gratia Londoniensi Episcopo, salutem, et fraternam in Domino caritatem. Quia proxima die Dominica post instans festum Epiphaniæ Domini, dilectum filium Dominum David Applethyn, canonicum Ecclesiæ cathedralis Assavensis, in ejusdem loci Episcopum in nostra Cantuarensi ecclesia consecrare proponimus, Domino concedente; fraternitati vestræ committimus et mandamus, quatinus omnes et singulos provinciæ nostræ Episcopos moneri canonice faciatis, quod dictis die et loco intersint, vel suo responso significent se consecrationi hujusmodi canonice consentire, facturique super hoc quod canonicæ statuunt sanctiones. Et vos ipsi, quoad vos, mandatum nostrum hujusmodi in forma prædicta similiter observetis. De die vero receptionis præsentium, et quid feceritis in præmissis, dictis die et loco, vestris litteris patentibus harum tenorem habentibus, curetis redderecertiores. Datum apud Sanctum Albanum iij^to^ Idus Novembris, anno Dni. MCCCXIIIJ ."

Cujus auctoritate mandati vos monemus, quatinus dictis die et loco intersitis, vel dictæ consecrationi vos consentire juxta formam mandati prædicti significetis. Salutiferis prosperetur successibus vestra paternitas

veneranda. Datum apud Hadham xvij° Kalendas Decembris, anno Dni. supradicto.

Data per copiam apud Bosebury iij° Nonas Januarii anno Dni. MCCCXIIIJ° supradicto.

18 Sept. (1318).

43.—De pœnitentia R. de Alyndon mitiganda, salva observantia regulari. Per Archiepiscopum Cantuariensem.

Chart. Antiq. C. 1294 *g*.

The Archbishop recommends to the Prior that the penance of R. de Aledone (a mutin-

Benedictionem et gratiam dextræ Salvatoris et nostram. Quia jampridem intelleximus quod Frater Robertus de Alyndone, pro modo culpæ suæ ut convicimus, passione pœnitentiæ coertatur; nos, quorundam precibus excitati, vestram devotionem affectuose rogamus, quatinus, ob nostri gratiam et amorem, sibi sinum

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(Sept.) 1318.

44.—[Copia brevis regii de privato sigillo, de parliamento, et de cruce Archiepiscopi Cantuariensis in provincia Eboracensi portanda.]

Chart Ant. C. 1294 *f*.

The King's writ of privy seal pressing the Archbishop to attend the Parliament at York; and informing him of arrangements which have been made for effecting a compromise between him and the Archbishop of York on the subject of the

Edward par le grace de Dieu Roi Dengleterre, Seignur Dirland, Duc Daquitaine, al honurable piere en Dieu Wautier par le mesmes grace Ercevesqe de Canterbire, Primat de toute Angleterre, salutz. Nous avoms bien entenduz les lettres qe vous nous envoiastes par nostre clerc, portour de cestes. Et purceo qe nous tenoms vostre presence en nostre parlement necessaire pur lesployt des grosses et chargeantes busoignes qe serront tretes et ordenees; vous prioms, et chargeoms especialement, qe, nient contrestantes les excusacions contenuez en vos dites lettres, vous hasteez vers nostre dit parlement tant come vous purrez bonement; et en venant ordinez vostre demoere a Torkeseye issint qe tretiz se puisse tenir illoeqes, entre vous et vostre conseill dune part, et Lercevesqe de Everwyk et ceux de son Chapitre Deverwik dautre part, sur acord faire sur les debatz qe sont entre vous et le dit Ercevesqe sur le portement de

aperientes clementiæ, rigorem pœnitentiæ, in quantum favor regulæ monasticæ id permittet, [mitigetis] usque adventum nostrum Cantuariæ, quem, si quoquomodo poterimus, ibidem vobis representare proponimus, priusquam versus partes Eboraci ad parliamentum inchoemus aggredi nostrum iter. In ipso parliamento perfrui credimus vestri colloquio atque visu. Et super hoc, brevi regio, cujus copiam vobis misimus, invitati, a nobis jam præmunitorias litteras recepistis. Super hiis omnibus de vestra intentione petimus, per intervenientem aliquem, effici certiores. Feliciter valeatis. Datum apud Lameh(eth) xvj° Kalendas Octobris sub sigillo nostro privato.

ous monk) shall be, as far as possible, mitigated. The Archbishop is going to the Parliament at York, and expects to meet the Prior there.

Domino Henrico Priori nostro Ecclesiæ nostræ Christi Cantuariensis.

44.

Edward by the grace of God King of England, Lord of Ireland, Duke of Aquitaine, to the honourable father in God Walter by the same grace Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of all England, greeting. We have entirely understood the letters which you have sent to us by your clerk, bearer of these presents. And because we hold your presence in our parliament necessary for the carrying out of the great and weighty affairs which will be discussed and enacted, we pray and especially charge you that, notwithstanding the excuses contained in your said letters, you hasten towards our said parliament as well as you can; and in coming arrange for a halt at Torksey, so that a conference may be there had between yourself and your counsel on the one part, and the Archbishop of York and those of his chapter on the other part, on a settlement to be made in the matter of the disputes between you and

public display of the cross of Canterbury in the Northern province.

voz croiz; et le dit Ercevesqe et ceux de son Chapitre se trerront illoeqes pres pur mesme vostre venue a Torkeseye; et facetz garnir ceux de vostre Chapitre de Canterbire qil . . . . . gentz pur eux od suffisant poair pur tretir sur cele busoigne . . . . . Donez suz nostre prive seal a Everwik le . . . jour . . . . . lan de nostre reigne xij^{e}.

24 Feb. (1318).

L. 189 *b*.

45.—De pannis emendis ad opus clericorum et familiæ.

Letter to a cloth merchant, asking him to send samples of various sorts of cloth to Canterbury by which the Prior may select his livery cloths for the year.

See Appendix No. 50.

Jeo vous prie qe vous me envoiez, par le portour de ceste lettre, ensamplaires des draps qe vous avez a vendre; cest assavoir, de ij. draps et demi de bele colour pur clercz, pris le drap lxxiij. soudz iiij. deniers. Item: ensamplaire de ij. draps de colour, et de ij. draps de large raye et de bon acord pur esqiers, pris le drap lxx. soudz. Item: ensamplaire de iiij. draps de large raie, ou de bone partie, pur forestiers et kn[ave]z, pris del drap iiij. marcz. Item: ensamplaire de iiij. draps de raie, ou de partie de bon acord, pur garsons, pris del drap xl. soudz. Et quant jeo averoi veu lensamplaires de voz draps et le pris, jeo maundrey a vous un homme pur eslire les draps et carier les a Canterbirs. A Dieu, qi vous gard et quantqe a vous apent. Donez a Canterbirs le xxiiij. de Faverer.

(1318.)

L. 189 *b*.

46.—Littera excusatoria facta Domino Regi.

The King has asked the Chapter for the living of West Horsleigh for one of his

A lour trescher seignur Sire Edward, par la grace Dieu noble Roy Dengleterre *&c.*, ses chapelleyns H. Priour del Esglise de Canterbirs et le Covent de meisme le leu, salutz, et la joye pardurable. Trescher Seignur, endroit de ceo qe vous nous mandastes

the said Archbishop as to the public carrying of your crosses ; and the said Archbishop and his chapter will wait thereabout for your arrival at Torksey. And cause your Chapter of Canterbury to be warned that they (instruct) someone on their behalf with sufficient power to confer on this affair. . . . . Given under our privy seal at York the . . . . day . . . . in the twelfth year of our reign.

45.

I beg you to send by the bearer of this letter, samples of the cloths which you have for sale: that is to say, two pieces and a half of well dyed for clerks; the price of each piece seventy-three shillings and fourpence. Also; a sample of two pieces of coloured cloth, and of two pieces with broad stripes of concordant colours, for esquires, the price of each piece seventy shillings. Also; a sample of four pieces with broad stripes, or of a good particolour, for keepers and knaves, the price of each piece four marcs. Also; a sample of four pieces of striped cloth, or of good particolour, for grooms, the price of each piece forty shillings. And when I have seen the samples of your cloth, and the price, I will send a man to you to choose the pieces and to bring them to Canterbury. God be with you, to keep you and all belonging to you. Given at Canterbury the 24th of February.

46.

To their Lord the Lord Edward, by the grace of God the noble King of England &c., his chaplains, H. the Prior of the Church of Canterbury, and the Convent of the same place, greeting, and eternal joy. Our very dear Lord, touching the matter about which you sent to us

Chaplains, but the Prior in reply says that he has no property or power in that church, so that he cannot comply with the King's wish.

nadgaires par voz lettres, qe nous voussissioms presenter vostre cher clerk Alayn de Attlyngflete al esglise de Westhorslegh, voillez savoir, tres honurable Seignur, qe la dite esglise nest de nostre patronage, ne de nostre doneesoun; et nous poise moult trescher Seignur qe nous ne puissoms faire vostre volunte. Pur quey nous vous prioms qe vous nous aietz bonement, sil vous plest, escusez. A Dieu trescher Seignur, qe vous garde corps et alme, et vous encrese en honur. Donez en nostre chapitle, &c.

23 May 1318.

L. 189 *b*.

47.—Littera excusatoria facta eidem pro qualibet liberatione Thomæ de Cotyngg.

The King has, on behalf of one of his servants, asked for the corrody in Christ Church which Thomas de Coting held during his life. The Prior replies that the monastery is too much impoverished to allow him to grant the request.

A lour trescher seignur, Sire Edward par la grace Dieu Roy Dengleterre &c., ses chapelleyns Henry Priour et le Covent del Esglise de Canterbirs, saluz, et sauncte de corps et dalme. Sire, endroit de ceo qe vous nous mandastes nadgaires par voz lettres, de receivre Johan Griffon en nostre meson, et granter a ly meisme tiele liversoun com Thomas de Cotyngg avoit tank com il vesqy; sachez, Sire, certeignement, qe nous sumes tant chargez de sojurnantz, et des liversons, et dez grants procuracies, et des empensions, et dez moltz des aides et demaundes, qe noz biens ne suffisent mye a nostre sustenaunce et as altres de queux nous sumes grevousement chargez. Pur quey, il nous co[n]vient sustrere grant partie a nous meismes de nostre sustenaunce, et amenuser le hospitaliter et les almoygnes qe nous solioms faire avant qe nous fuissoms issint chargez. Et pur ceo, Sire, nous ne pooms faire vostre mandement en ceste chose, sanz grant abessement et blemissement del estat de vostre Mere-esglise de Canterbirs et de nous. Pur quey, cher Sire, nous vous prioms, et requiroms devoutement, qe, pur Dieu et pur lamour Saint Thomas, nous voillez esparnier de ceo charge del dit

lately by your letters, namely, that we would present your beloved clerk Alayn de Attlyngflete to the church of West Horsley, please it you to know, most honourable Lord, that the said church is not in our patronage or in our gift, and it grieves us much, well-beloved Lord, that we are not able to perform your wish. Wherefore, we beseech you that you will kindly, if it please you, hold us excused. God be with you, our well-beloved Lord, and keep you, body and soul, and augment you in honour. Given in our chapter house, &c.

47.

To their well-beloved Lord the Lord Edward, by the grace of God King of England, &c. his chaplains, Henry the Prior, and the Convent of the Church of Canterbury, greeting, and health of body and soul. Sire, touching the matter, concerning which you sent to us lately by your letters, about receiving John Griffon into our House, and granting him the same exhibition as Thomas Cotyngg had during his life; know, Sire, for certain, that we are so oppressed with sojourners and exhibitions, and heavy fees and pensions, and numerous aids and demands, that our goods by no means suffice for our own maintenance and for those other things with which we are so grievously burthened. Whence it comes that we are obliged to pinch ourselves in our diet, and to restrict the hospitality and alms which we used to practise before we were so oppressed. Wherefore, Sire, we cannot obey your commands in this matter without great diminution and injury to the estate of your Mother Church of Canterbury, and of ourselves; on this account therefore, Sire, we pray you and devoutly beg, that for God's sake and for the love of Saint Thomas, you will spare us the charge of the said John, in consideration of our want of ability, and of the heavy expenses that we have through

Johan, pur nostre nounpoer, et pur les grantz chargez qe nous aveoms de moult des altres qe souvent viegnent, repairent, et revenent par nous, qi sume en le haut chemyn al issue et lentre de vostre roialme plus qe nul altre gentz de la terre. A Dieu, Sire, qe vous gard et quantqe a vous apent. Donez en nostre chapitle le xxiij^{e} jour de May, lan de grace M^{l}CCCXVIIJ.

(1320.) L. 117 *a*.

48.—De bonis Domini R(oberti) Archiepiscopi in manibus Domini W(alteri) Archiepiscopi existentibus.

The accounts of the Executors of Archbishop Winchelsey with Archbishop Walter Raynold not yet settled.

Memorandum quod ad ultimum compotum, factum apud Lamheth inter Archiepiscopum et executores predecessoris sui, petierunt dicti executores a dicto Archiepiscopo, sibi satisfieri pro bladis remanentibus in maneriis Archiepiscopatus post obitum predecessoris sui predicti, et pro denariis liberatis Archiepiscopo de mutuo per executores, et pro aliis rebus penes ipsum remanentibus secundum compotum eorum MDccxiij. *li.* ix. *s.* v. *d.*

But repeated efforts made by Archbishop Walter and the executors to come to a compromise.

Unde tunc temporis compotus finalis fieri non potuit, eo quod Magister Michael de Bereham non consensit plenam allocationem fieri Archiepiscopo de defectibus domorum et maneriorum. Postea tamen dictus Magister Michael scripsit Archiepiscopo predicto, quod libenter permitteret dictam allocationem sibi fieri juxta discretionem suam in periculo suo; ita quod ipse et coexecutores sui fuissent exonerati. Et ideo dictus Archiepiscopus petit sibi allocari de summa predicta, videlicet pro defectibus domorum, maneriorum, et molendinorum tocius Archiepiscopatus, taxatis per sacramentum bonorum et legalium virorum de visneto in septem balliviis Mc. *li.* ij. *s.* iij. *d.* Item petit allocationem denariorum quos solvit in scaccario pro dictis

many others who continually come and go by our way; we being more than any on earth exactly on the high road at the point of entry to, and departure from, your realm. God be with you, Sire, and keep you and all belonging to you. Given in our Chapter House, the 23 day of May in the year 1318.

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executoribus cxxxv. *li.* ix. *s.* j. *d.* obolum. Item pro defectibus animalium et instauri quæ debebant remansisse in maneriis ultra quam remanserat, et pro debilitate animalium remanentium quia modici valoris; qui quidem defectus inveniebantur, per testimonium legalium virorum et sacramentum servientium manerio-
xx
rum ciiij. *li.* Item petit pro denariis obligatis Episcopo Coventrensi et Lychfeldensi pro defuncto xl. *li.* Item pro expensis factis circa blada balliviæ de Croynden metenda, quæ quidem blada minus valebat quam pretium acrarum, quod quidem pretium Archiepiscopus solvit per conventionem lvij. *li.* ix. *s.* x. *d.* Item pro denariis quos solvit executoribus præ manibus vij. *li.* x. *s.* Item petit allocationem denariorum quos dominus Rex sibi concessit de evasione duorum fugitivorum qui evaserunt de custodia prædecessoris sui x. *li.*

Summa totalis MDxxx *li.* xj. *s.* ij. *d.* obolus.

Et memorandum quod, allocata Archiepiscopo ista summa sibi allocanda, tenetur adhuc executoribus in
xx
ciiij. ij. *li.* xviij. *s.* ij. *d.* obolo.

Verumptamen dictus Archiepiscopus offert satisfacere
c
dictis executoribus de v. marcis pro omnibus actionibus sedandis. Postea in quindena Pascha, in festo Apostolorum Philippi et Jacobi, dicti executores obtulerunt Domino Archiepiscopo Dccc. marcas pro dampnis do-

morum et omnibus aliis calumpniis. Et dominus Archiepiscopus obtulit eis die prædicto, anno Domini MCCCXXj., omnibus computatis et allocatis, DCXVj. *li.* iiij. *s.* ij. *d.* obolum.

27 April 1321.

49.—De novo studio assignando Lectori nostro

Cart. Ant. C. 1294 *b.*

The Public Reader of the monastery has been used to prepare and rehearse his readings in the Infirmary, to the disturbance of the sick; but the Archbishop, hearing that the Prior has constructed eighteen new studies (in the cloister), requests that one of these may be assigned to the Reader.

Walterus permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, totius Angliæ Primas, dilecto filio Domino Priori Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, salutem, gratiam, et benedictionem. Cum nuper, ex certis causis in visitatione nostra in Ecclesia nostra prædicta exercita compertis, ordinavimus quod Lectori vestro in Sacra Pagina locus competens ad studendum extra infirmitorium vestrum provideretur, quamcitius temporis opportunitas se offeret; ac intelleximus quod vos octodecim nova diversoria in loco studentibus oportuno fecistis parari; volumus et mandamus quod præfato Lectori vestro locus competens ad studendum in hujusmodi novis diversoriis assignetur; quodque locus infirmitorii ubi dictus Lector hactenus studere solebat reservetur specialiter, prout assolet, usibus infirmorum; ut debiles et infirmi absque strepitu populari secretius conquiescant. In Christo feliciter valeatis. Datum apud Cherryngg, v^to^ Kalendas Maii, anno Dni. MCCCXXI^mo^.

13 May 1321.

50.—Breve pro domibus et kayis nostris in Sandwyco non taxandis nec talliandis.

L. 133 *b.*

A King's writ requiring the officers of the Crown at Sandwich to abstain from levying taxes upon

Rex Ballivis suis de Sandwyco salutem. Ex parte dilecti nobis in Christo Prioris Ecclesiæ Christi. Cantuariensis nobis est ostensum quod, cum ipse et Conventus ejusdem loci dudum concessissent, remisissent, et quietumclamassent Domino Edwardo, quondam Regi Angliæ patri nostro, villam et portum de Sandwyco cum pertinenciis, exceptis domibus et kayis quas habent in

eadem villa dono progenitorum nostrorum quondam regum Angliæ in pura et perpetua elemosina, in escambium pro sexaginta libratas terræ eisdem Priori et Conventui alibi assignatis, vos contributiones, tallagia, et auxilia, a dicto Priore, de domibus et kayis suis prædictis, vobis præstanda, quæ idem vel prædecessor sui ante escambium prædictum nunquam facere consueverunt, exigitis, et ipsum Priorem ea occasione distringitis et multipliciter inquietatis minus juste, in ipsius Prioris dispendium non modicum et gravamen. Et quia nolumus quod eidem Priori, occasione escambii prædicti, præjudicetur in hac parte; vobis præcipimus quod ab hiis exactionibus, districtionibus, et inquietationibus, eidem Priori occasione prædicta inferendis, desistentes, ipsum domos et kayas suas prædictas, absque contributionibus, tallagiis, et auxiliis vobis inde præstandis, quietas tenere permittatis, prout ipse et prædecessoris sui prædicti ante escambium prædictum, a tempore quo memoria non existit, eas tenere consueverunt. Et districtionem, siquam eidem Priori ea occasione feceritis, sine dilatione relaxetis eidem. Teste meipso apud Westmonasterium xiij° die Maii anno regni nostri xiiij^mo^.

the property of the convent of Canterbury in that town.

Ad istud breve respondet Ballivus de Sandwyco, quod non est factum suum, sed factum Majoris et communitatis de Sandwyco; et ideo nichil inde potest facere.

Return endorsed on the writ. Another endorsement written when the same writ was improperly served on the Mayor of Sandwich.

Major et communitas de Sandwyco respondent, quod istud breve non dirigitur ipsis Majori et communitati, sed tamen Ballivis Domini Regis de Sandwyco; et ideo nichil facient pro brevi isto.

Et ideo Prior Cantuariensis petit remedium, et quod scribatur Majori et communitati de Sandwyco per unum breve; et, similiter, Ballivis Domini Regis de Sandwyco per aliud breve, juxta formam brevis supradicti.

Prayer for a fresh writ.

4 May 1321.

L. 117 *b*.

51.—Littera pro domibus et kayis nostris in Sandwyco.

The Chapter request the corporation of Sandwich to protect the rights of the Convent which were reserved when the town was given to the King in exchange for other estates.

A lur chers et bien amez en Dieu le Maire et Barons de Sandwyz, Henri Priour del Esglise de Canterbire et le Covent de meisme le leu, saluz, et la joye perdurable. Pur ceo qe en les eschaunges qe se firent nadgeres entre le Roy Edward, piere nostre seignur le Roy qe ore est, et nous de la ville et del port de Sandwyz, sount especialement forpris noz mesons et noz kayes qe nous avoms de donn des Roys en Sandwiz, a tenir auxi franchement et qui(e)temen come les Roys les tindrent quant ils les donerent a nostre dite Esglise de Canterbire. Nous vous prioms cherement qe vous voillez bonement suffrir qe nous puissions aver et tenir noz dites mesonns et kayes en pees sanz enpeschement en vostre temps, sicome nous et noz predecessours les avoms eu et tenu par deux cents aunz et pluis avant la morte de Saint Thomas, et puis en temps de voz ancestres; et qe le droit et la franchise de nostre dite Esglise ne soient pas blemyes par encheson de les dites eschaunges faites al dit Roy. Donez en nostre chapele demein de la Sainte Croys, lan de grace Mcccxxj.

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19 May 1321.

L. 117 *b*.

52.—Acquietancia data executoribus testamenti Margaritæ Reginæ de xxviij*s*. iiij*d*. nobis solutis pro fœno capto apud Ickham.

Receipt for the payment of a debt of fourteen years standing due from the late

Universis pateat, &c., quod nos Henricus Prior, &c., recepimus ab executoribus testamenti bonæ memoriæ dominæ Margaritæ quondam Reginæ Angliæ defunctæ xx. solidos sterlingorum, de una summa xxviij*s*. iiij*d*., in quibus præfata Regina nobis tenebatur pro fœno per ministros nostros ministris suis vendito in per-

51.

To their dear and well-beloved in God, the Mayor and Barons of Sandwich. Henry, Prior of the church of Canterbury and the convent of the same place, greeting, and eternal joy. Whereas, in the exchanges which were formerly made between King Edward, the father of our Lord the King who now is, and ourselves, affecting the town and port of Sandwich, there was special exception made of our houses and quays which we own in Sandwich, by royal grants giving them to us to hold as freely and peaceably as the kings held them, when they gave them to our said church of Canterbury. We pray you tenderly, that you will kindly allow us to have and to hold our said houses and quays in peace, without hindrance now in your time, as we and our predecessors had and held them for two hundred years and more, before the death of Saint Thomas, moreover and in the days of your forefathers; and that the rights and privileges of our said church may not be hurt by means of the said exchanges made to the said King. Given in our private chapel the day of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, in the year of grace 1321.

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hendinacione sua apud Wyngham anno regni Regis Edwardi filii Regis Henrici xxxv^to^. Et, in subsidium testamenti prædicti, viij. solidos cum iiij. denarios residuos prædictis executoribus perdonamus. Et animam prædictæ Reginæ de xxviij. *s.* iiij. *d.* supradictis exoneramus per præsentes. In cujus rei testimonium præsenti scripto sigillum nostrum duximus apponendum. Dat. Cant. die Sci. Dunstani, anno Domini MCCCXXJ^mo^. Queen to the Convent.

(June) 1321.

L. 117 *b*.

Archbishop Walter Raynold expostulates with the Devonshire subcollector of the Pope's tenth, who had compelled the Chapter of Canterbury to pay the tenth for their manor of Doccombe in Moreton Hampstead, in spite of their having, by special composi-

53.—De decima de Dockoumbe.

Walterus permissione divina, &c., ad levandum et colligendum decimam annualem, domino Regi Angliæ, per sanctissimum in Christo patrem Dominum Johannem Papam, divina providentia, XXII^m^, pro defensione Ecclesiæ atque regni Angliæ nuper concessam, unacum fratre nostro Domino Londoniensi Episcopo specialiter deputatus, Priori de Plympton, subcollectori ejusdem decimæ in diœcesi Exoniensi, salutem, &c. Ex gravi querela dilectorum filiorum nostrorum Prioris et Conventus Ecclesiæ nostræ Christi Cantuariensis accepimus quod, licet vobis nuper mandaremus quod dicti religiosi solverunt totam decimam prædictam ipsos contingentem subcollectoribus ejusdem decimæ in nostra Cantuariensi diœcesi deputatis, pro omnibus bonis suis ecclesiasticis, tam spiritualibus quam temporalibus, in tota provincia nostra Cantuariensi existentibus; quodque exactioni decimæ prædictæ ab eisdem religiosis, ratione bonorum suorum quorumcunque in diœcesi Exoniensi existentium, vobis præstandæ, supersedere curaretis, nullam eis ea occasione inferentes molestiam

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19 June. 1321.

L. 117 *b*.

The Earl Thomas of Lancaster is asked to patronise the scheme for obtaining the canonization of the late Archbishop Winchelsey.

L. 131 *a*.

54.—Littera Domino Comiti Lancastriæ de canonizacione Domini R(oberti) Archiepiscopi.

A noble home et lur bien ame Sire Thomas, Counte de Lancastre et de Leycestre, Seneschal Dengleterre, Henri Priour et le Couvent del Esglise de Canterbire saluz, et saunte de cors et dalme. Sire, endroit de ceo qe vous nous mandastes nadgeres par vos lettres, les queux nous recumes le xvij. jour de Juyn drain passe, qe vous avez ordine de envoyer proscheinement, par aucun des voz, a la Court de Rome le p(ro)ces de la sainte vie et de les miracles qe Dieux ad monstre

vel gravamen; vos tamen præfatos Priorem et Conventum, per varias censuras ecclesiasticas, compulistis ad solvendum vobis decem solidos pro decima prædicta, de bonis suis temporalibus apud Morton in dicta diœcesi Exoniensi existentibus, contra formam mandati nostri prædicti vobis directi, de quo miramur plurimum et movemur. Quocirca vobis mandamus quatinus ab hiis molestiis præfatis religiosis, occasione prædicta illatis et inferendis, penitus desistatis; et totam pecuniæ summam quam ab eisdem, sub colore decimæ prædictæ, improvide recepistis seu recipi fecistis sibi, sine difficultate aliqua, restituatis. Alioquin sitis coram nobis tertio die juridico post festum Translationis Beati Thomæ Martyris proxime venturo, ubicunque tunc fuerimus in civitate, diœcesi, vel provincia nostra Cantuariensi, ostensuri causam rationabilem, si quam habetis, quare mandato nostro prius vobis inde directo non paruistis, seu parere contempsistis. De die receptionis præsentium, et quid super præmissis facere decreveritis, nos dictis die et loco, per vestras letteras patentes harum seriem continentes, certificare curetis. Dat., etc.

tion, paid it to the general collectors for England.

54.

To the noble and their well-beloved Sir Thomas, Earl of Lancaster and Leicester, Grand Steward of England, Henry the Prior and the Convent of the Church of Canterbury greeting and health of body and soul. Sire, touching those things which you lately sent to us in your letters which we received on the 17th of June last past, namely that you have decided to send speedily to the Court of Rome, by one of your household, the process relating to the holy life and the miracles which God has shown upon earth for the sake of Robert de

en terre pur Robert de Winchelse, nostre Arcevesque de Canterbire qi drain feust; les queux vous avez fait sure, solunc lenformement qe nostre sanctissime pierre le Pape vous ad fait avant ses houres par ses lettres enbullez; et sur ceo luy prierez par voz lettres qe luy plese graunter la canonizacion du dit Arcevesque; et suerez vers luy tant qe al esployt de ceste busoigne; nous vous mercioms cherement et devoutement pur le grant honour et lamour qe vous monstrez vers vostre dite Esglise de Canterbire; et nous serons prestz de ordiner ce qe nous saueroms et purroms en convenable manere qe la dite busoigne preigne tel esployt qe ceo soit a la plesaunce de Dieu et al honour de Saunte Esglise. Et par ceo, Sire, qe nostre saint pierre le Pape est moult favorable et gracious au Roy de France qi ore est, bon serroit qe vous feissez requere par voz lettres le dit Roi et autres des grantz de France qe lur plese prier par lur lettres le Pape et les Chardinaux pur ceste busoigne le plustost covenablement esploiter. A Dieu, Sire, qe vous garde, et vous donit la joye perdurable. Donez en nostre chapitle, le xix. jour de Juyn, lan de grace MCCCXXJ.

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23 June 1321.

55.—De pastura animalium rectoris de Ickham.

L. 131 *a*.

The lands of Christchurch being exempt from the payment of small tithes, the Prior resists the claim of the rector of Ickham to free

Salutem quam sibi. Super hiis quæ nuper nobis pro rectore ecclesiæ de Ikham rogando scripsistis: sciatis quod si rectores ecclesiæ prædictæ aliqua animalia in pastura nostra aliquando forte habuerunt, hoc fuit eis permissum de gratia speciali, et non loco minutarum decimarum; quia de minutis decimis sufficienter et specialiter sumus privilegiati. Mandamus tamen ministris in manerio nostro de Ikham quod animalia propria dicti rectoris, quæ de jure habere debet et solet in pastura nostra, ipsum habere permittant in eadem pastura, sicut prædecessores sui

Winchelse, our last Archbishop of Canterbury, which you have verified in accordance with the directions which our most Holy Father the Pope formerly gave to you in his letters sealed with his bulla; and moreover, that you will beseech him by your letters, to consent to the canonization of the said Archbishop; and that you will sue to him until the business is completed; we thank you heartily and devoutly for the great honour and love which you show to our said Church of Canterbury; and we shall be prepared to undertake all that we know or suitably can, so that the said business may come to such an end as shall be for the pleasure of God, and the honour of Holy Church. And, Sire, because our Holy Father the Pope is very well-disposed and gracious towards the King of France who now is, it would be well that you should, by your letters, cause the said King, and others of the nobility of France, to be requested that it may please them to pray, by their letters, the Pope and the Cardinals in favour of the speedy success of this affair. God be with you, Sire, who guard you, and give you eternal joy. Given in our Chapter House the 19th day of June in the year of grace 1321.

rectores ejusdem ecclesiæ habere de jure solebant. Justum enim esse censemus quod rectores ecclesiarum sint terminis suis contenti, sicut religiosi esse debent, prout nobis scripsistis. Datum Cantuariæ ix. Kalendas Julii, anno Domini MCCCXXJ.

pasturage which he assumes to be a substitute for these tithes.

56.—CERTIFICATIO DE PARLIAMENTO WESTMONASTERII A DIE SCI. JOHANNIS IN TRES SEPTIMANAS, ANNO DOMINI MCCCXXJ. 13 July 1321. L. 131 *a*.

Venerabili in Christo patri, etc. Devotus filius H. Prior, etc. Litteras paternitatis vestræ quinto die Junii proxime præterito recepimus, sub tenore sequenti: Acknowledgment of the receipt of a

summons to Parliament.

"Walterus, etc." Cui quidem mandato vestro in omnibus parebimus reverenter. Datum in capitulo nostro iij° Idus Julii. A.D. supradicto.

13 July 1321.

57.—PROCURATORIUM PRO EODEM PARLIAMENTO.

L. 181 *a*.

Power of attorney by which the Chapter of Christ Church, Canter.

Universis pateat per presentes quod nos H. et Capitulum, etc. facimus et constituimus dilectum fratrem nostrum Willelmum de Ledeb(ury) procuratorem nostrum, ad faciendum et consentiendum hiis quæ ad honorem Dei et Ecclesiæ suæ sancte, et utilitatem totius reipublicæ, de communi consilio et assen-

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17 Sept. 1321.

58.—DE VINIS FRANCIÆ.

L. 131 *a*.

The Prior sends to his agent a letter of patronage from the Queen of England to her brother the King of France, and directs him to make use of it.

A Robert de Longemel saluz. Nous vous envoyoms par Thomas Millane les lettres Madame la Roigne Dengleterre, qe ele ad envoye au Roi et a la Roigne de France, et a Monsire Miles de Noyers, et au Seignur de Suly, et a Mestre Jehan Gailard Tresorer de France, pur les arrerages de noz vins de Pessi. Et vous prioms qe vous et le dit Thomas baillez les dites lettres au Roy et a la Roigne et a les autres ditz seignurs pur noz dites busoignes. Et ceo qe vous enavez fait de ceste chose nous mandez par voz lettres et par le dit Thomas. Donez a Canterbire le xvij. jour de Septembre, lan de grace MCCCXXJ.

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11 Dec. 1321.

59.—ACQUIETANCIA DE BONIS LEGATIS RECEPTIS DE EXECUTORIBUS TESTAMENTI DNI. R(OBERTI) ARCHIEPISCOPI: VIDELICET DE CXXVIIJ*li.* XXIIJ*d.*

L. 131 *b*.

The surviving executor of Archbishop

Universis, etc. Sciatis quod nos Henricus permissione divina Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis recipimus, per diversas indenturas, a Magistro Willelmo de Swantone,

su venerabilis patris Domini W(alteri) Dei gratia Cant. Archiepiscopi, totius Angliæ Primatis, prælatorum, magnatum, procerum, et cleri provinciæ Cantuariensis in instanti parliamento, apud Westmonasterium a die Sanctii Johannis Baptistæ in tres septimanas tenendo, concorditer contigerint ordinari. Dantes eidem procuratori nostro potestatem substituendi alium procuratorem loco suo si sibi viderit expedire. Ratum habituri id quod per dictum procuratorem, vel substituendum ab eodem, actum fuerit in præmissis in forma prædicta. Datum in capitulo nostro iij° Idus Jul. A.D. MCCCXXJ.

bury, appoint their proctor in Parliament.

58.

To Robert of Lonjumeau greeting. We send you by Thomas Millane the letters of our Lady the Queen of England, which she has sent to the King and Queen of France, and to the Sieur Miles de Noyers, and to the Lord of Suly, and to Master John Gailard, the Grand Treasurer of France, for the arrears of our wines from Poissy. And we pray you that you and the said Thomas will deliver the said letters to the King, and the Queen, and to the other aforesaid Lords for our matters before mentioned. And send us word by your letters, and by the said Thomas, what you have done in this business. Given at Canterbury, the 17th day of September, in the year of grace 1321.

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executore testamenti celebris memoriæ Domini Roberti de Wynchelse, quondam Cantuariensis Archiepiscopi defuncti, centum viginti octo libras viginti et tres denarios sterlingorum, in partem solutionis mille marcarum, quas dictus Dominus Archiepiscopus in testamento suo nobis et ecclesiæ nostræ predictæ legavit; computatis et allocatis omnimodis receptis nostris de

Winchelsey pays an instalment of a legacy left by the Archbishop to the convent of Christ Church,

bonis quibuscunque prædicti Domini Archiepiscopi, et de bonis Magistri Michaelis de Bereham defuncti, coexecutoris testamenti prædicti, per quemcunque nobis liberatis, vel traditis, seu penes nos depositis, vel in custodia dimissis. De quibus centum viginti octo libris viginti et tribus denariis prædictum Magistrum Willelmum quietum clamamus. Et si aliqua instrumenta, scripturæ, vel indenturæ, de bonis quibuscunque prædictorum defunctorum, vel alterius ipsorum, penes nos deposita vel in custodia dimissa per quemcunque, imposterum alicubi appareant, vacua sint, et irrita, et pro nullis penitus habeantur. In quorum omnium testimonium nos, Henricus Prior Ecclesiæ Christi prædicti et ego Willelmus executor supradictus huic scripto indentato sigilla nostra apposuimus alternatim. Acta et data apud Godmersham, undecimo die Decembris, anno Domini MCCC. vicesimo primo.

all notes of hand and other similar securities being cancelled by the payment.

17 Dec. 1321.

L. 131 *b*.

60.—Responsio ad litteram Abbatis de Langedone et domini W. de Den militis, pro hominibus armatis mittendis domino Regi de comitatu Kent.

Salutem quam sibi. Super hiis quæ nobis nuper scripsistis, videtur quod consilium illius magni et nobilis viri, de quo nobis fecistis in vestris litteris mencionem, ydoneum est et sequendum cum acceptacione Domini Archiepiscopi. Præsertim quia idem nobilis in arduis negotiis et perplexis providus est et circumspectus, ac voluntatem domini Regis, et causam instantis aggressionis sui itineris versus marchiam præ cæteris regni incolis magis novit, et ipsius Domini Regis, quod absit, offensam scit et potest quamcitius moderare. Valeat sicut valere vellemus in Christo. Datum sub sigillo nostro privato xvij^mo die Decembris.

A letter of generalities on the subject of a demand made on the church for a levy of soldiers.

61.—De negotio Coventrensis et Lichfeldensis (episcopi). 14 Jan. 1322.

L. 131 *b*.

The Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield having enquired for documentary evidence of the legality of his election, is told that such evidence does not exist at Canterbury, but that probably it may be found at Lambeth.

Suo suus totaliter semetipsum, et salutem illam quam peperit puerpera singularis. Fortunæ labentis astucia, Domino permittente, magis solito plures angit, et præcipue divino cultui deditos pusillanimes deprimit, et titubantes subvertit. Set demum magnanimis, in agone constantibus, ipse Deus reddit triumphum. Ecce pater, scrutatis nuper processibus decretis et munimentis autenticis electionum cathedralium ecclesiarum in archivis nostris repositis, nichil invenimus de negotio ultimæ electionis vestræ in Lichefeldensi Ecclesia celebratæ, nec etiam alibi prout verisimiliter credebatur aliquid invenitur quod de hujusmodi electione faciat mencionem; quod corditer plangimus, novit Deus; set ut asseritur a quibusdam hii processus, decreta, et munimenta, sunt apud Lamheth, ubi celebris memoriæ Dominus Robertus, penultimus Archiepiscopus noster, plures electiones alias confirmavit; habeatis igitur nos in hac parte excusatos. Valete sicut valere vellemus in Christo, per suæ matris et beati martyris Thomæ merita gloriosa. Datum Cantuariæ xix° Kalendas Februarii, anno Domini mcccxxj.

62.—Item de eodem. 14 Jan. 1322.

L. 132 *a*.

The same letter differently addressed.

Sacræ religionis professoribus dominis Suppriori et Capitulo Cathedralis Ecclesiæ Coventrensis, Henricus permissione divina Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis salutem illam quam peperit, &c. Quia milites Christi sumus, et sub uno principe militamus, decet et congruit ut alter alterius onera caritativis impendiis supportemus, ut sic legem Dei mutuis affectibus feliciter impleamus. Ecce karissimi, scrutatis nuper etc. *ut supra*. Valeat et prospere vigeat vestra sancta

devotio ad vineam domini Sabaoth excolendam. Data ut supra.

3 Mar. 1322.

L. 132 *a*.

63.—Acquietancia de arreragiis firmæ de Stystede.

Receipt given for rent to the farmers of the Manor of Stisted belonging to Christ Church, Canterbury.

Universis ad quos præsens scriptum pervenerit. Henricus permissione divina Prior. etc., salutem in Domino. Noveritis quod cum Radulphus Doreward de Boekyngg. Bartholomeus Lyoun. Reginaldus filius Rogeri. et Edmundus le Cuppere de eadem teneantur nobis in xxx. et viij. libris sterlingorum, solvendis ad certos terminos. prout in litteris obligatoriis ipsorum inde confectis plenius continetur; nos tenore presentium volumus et concedemus quod, si prædicti Radul-

5 Mar. 1322.

L. 132 *a*.

64.—De centum marcis missis Domino Regi apud Burton super Trente.

The Prior sends a required marks to the King at Burton in answer to a request made shortly before.

A son trescher seignur Sire Edward par la grace de Dieu Roy Dengleterre. Seignur Dirlande, et Duk Daquitaine, son chapelein Henri Priour del Esglise de Canterbire saluz. et la joye perdurable. Trescher Seignur, pur ceo qe jay entendu nadgeres par voz lettres, qe jeo receu a Canterbire la darrein jour de Feurier, qe vous avez moult afaire par encheson de aucunes gentz qi sount rebels et desobediaunts a vous, contre Dieu et resoun, jeo vous envoy par le portour de ceste lettre cent marcs desterlings, en ayde contre les ditz rebels; et moult poise a moi et a mon covent qe nous ne puissioms pluis largement vous aider, quar nous avoms perdu deinz cest an et demy pluis qe mil boefs et vaches et altres bestes. Et sachez, trescher Seignur, qe nous prieroms devotement a Dieu, et a Nostre Dame, et a Saint Thomas, pur vous, de jour et de nuy, qe vous puissiez issi esploiter les busoignes qe vous avez

phus, Bartholomeus, Reginaldus, et Edmundus, vel unus ipsorum pro omnibus, solvant in thesauraria nostra apud Cantuariam, infra quindenam Pascha anno regni Regis Edwardi filii Regis Edwardi xv^mo^ sex libras, et infra quindenam Nativitatis Beati Johannis Baptistæ proxime sequentis sex libras, et infra quindenam Sancti Michaelis quod erit anno regni Regis prædicti xvj^mo^. sex libras, et infra quindenam Natalis Domini proxime sequentis x. libras, et infra quindenam Pascha proxime sequentis x. libras, tunc prædictos Radulphum, Bartholomeum, Reginaldum, et Edmundum, qui manerium de Stistede ad certum tempus tenent ad firmam, quietos clamabimus de firma quæ nobis debetur de prædicto manerio de Stistede usque ad festum Paschæ anno regni Regis prædicti xvj^mo^. In cujus, &c. Datum Cantuariæ tertio die Martii, anno Domini MCCCXXIJ., regis prædict xv^mo^.

64.

To his very dear Lord Sir Edward by the grace of God King of England, Lord of Ireland, and Duke of Aquitaine, his chaplain Henry, Prior of the Church of Canterbury, greeting, and joy eternal. Very dear Lord, whereas I have lately learned from your letters which I received at Canterbury on the last day of February, that you are greatly troubled on account of certain persons who are rebellious and disobedient to you, contrary to God and justice, I send you by the bearer of this letter a hundred marcs sterling as an aid against the rebels aforesaid, and it much grieves me and my convent that we are not able to help you more generously, for within the last year and a half we have lost more than a thousand oxen, cows, and other cattle. And be assured, our very dear Lord, that we shall devoutly pray to God, and Our Lady, and Saint Thomas, for you, by day and night, that you may so prosper in the

empris qe ceo soyt al honour de Dieu, et de vous, et al profist de vostre roialme. Donez a Canterbire, le quint jour de Marz, lan de grace MCCCXXJ.

64A.—De eodem.

The messenger carrying the hun-

Amantissimo sibi in Christo. Magistro Roberto de Baldok suus Henricus permissione, etc. Quia mittimus per latorem præsentium domino nostro Domino Regi

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65.—De eodem.

An influential courtier is informed of the gift.

A son trescher et bien ame en Dieu Monsire Hugh le Despenser le pierre, Henry Priour, etc., saluz, et saunte et solas, de cors et de corage. Por ceo qe nous avoms entendu qe nostre seignur le Roy ad moult afaire, par encheson de aucunes gentz rebels et desobediauntz a luy, contre Dieu et resoun, nous luy enveyoms, par le portour de ceste lettre, cent marcs desterlings, en aide contre les ditz desobediauntz et rebels. Et por ceo nous vous prioms, si vous plest, qe vous soiez en aide al dit portour, qe il feust tost et bien esployte. Et sachez, Sire, qe moult nous piese qe nous ne puissoms pluis largement aider a nostre seignur le Roy a ceste foith, qar nous avoms perdu deinz cest an et demi pluis qe mil boefs et vaches et altres bestes. A Dieu qe vous garde, etc. Donez a Canterbire ut supra.

Consimilis littera (missa est) Domino H(ugoni) filio.

(May) 1323.

66.—Peticio pro muro et fossato villæ inter Northgate et Quenyngate et muragio per vij. annos.

L. 132 *b*.

The Chapter ask the King to

Ceo monstrent a nostre Seignur le Roi ses Chapeleins le Prieur et le Covent del Esglise de Canterbire, qe

enterprises which you have undertaken, that it may be to the honour of God and of yourself, and to the profit of your realm. Given at Canterbury, the 5th day of March, in the year of grace 1321.

Angliæ centum marcas sterlingorum, in subsidium contra inobedientes et sibi rebelles, rogamus vos, quod dicto latori consilium et auxilium impendatis ad faciendum sibi injunctum nuncium Domino Regi, loco et tempore opportunis. Valete, etc. Data Cantuariæ die supradicto.

dred marks is recommended to R. de Baldok.

65.

To his very dear and well-beloved in God the Lord Hugh le Despenser the elder, Henry the Prior, &c., greeting, and health, and comfort of body and spirit. Whereas we have understood that our Lord the King has much trouble on account of certain persons who are rebellious and disobedient to him, contrary to God and justice, we send him by the bearer of this letter a hundred marcs, &c., *as in* 64.

66.

Hereby it is shown to our Lord the King by his chaplains the Prior and the Convent of the Church of

grant them that part of the wall which is the common boundary of the City and of their precinct.

les murs de la cite de Canterbire entre Northgate et Queningate, qe se joynent al Esglise la ou le cors Saint Thomas gist, sount moult, deschetz, a grant peril de la dite Esglise. Et pur ceo prient a nostre Seignur le Roi les avantditz Prieur et Covent qe, pur Dieu et pur lamour Saint Thomas, lur voille doner et granter le mur et le fosse qe se joynent a lur enclos entre les dites portes de Norgate et Queningate; et murage par sept aunz, pur repariller les defautes de ceaux murs entre les dites portes, pur seaurte del Esglise, et del corps Saint Thomas qe leinz repose.

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1 June 1322.

L. 132 *b*.

67.—Littera missa Domino Karolo Franciæ pro vinis Franciæ.

The Chapter make interest at the French Court for the continuation of the delivery of the wine of St. Thomas, first granted to their predecessors by Louis VII.

Præclari generis viro, Domino Karolo magnifici Regis Francorum filio,[1] Vallesii, Alenconiæ, Carnotiæ, et Andegaviæ Comiti, Henricus permissione divina, &c. salutem, et felicem utriusque hominis sospitatem. Cum celebris memoriæ Dominus Ludovicus quondam Rex Franciæ, ob devocionem et dilectionem quas habuit ad Beatum et gloriosum martirem Thomam, dudum Ecclesiæ nostræ Archiepiscopum, nobis et Ecclesiæ nostræ prædictæ centum modios vini in perpetuam elemosinam concesserit, percipiendos in castellaria Pisciaci annuatim. Et licet ministri Domini Regis Franciæ de Pissiaco arreragia et defectus hujusmodi liberalitatis regiæ per sex annos proxime præteritos, per sacramentum legalium virorum, singulis annis, appreciaverint, tamen precium hujusmodi arreragiorum (et) defectuum nobis hactenus non solverunt. Quocirca

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[1] This Charles of France was the warlike Charles of Valois, uncle to the reigning King and not his son, as the letter seems to say.

Canterbury, that the walls of the City of Canterbury between Northgate and Queningate, which are adjoining to the Church where lies the body of Saint Thomas, are much ruined, to the great danger of the aforesaid Church. And therefore the said Prior and Convent pray our Lord the King, for the sake of God, and for the love of Saint Thomas, that he will give and grant to them the wall and the moat which adjoin their precinct between the said gates of Northgate and Queningate; and a wall-tax during seven years for the repairing of the breaches of these walls between the said gates; for the security of the Church, and of the body of St. Thomas, which therein reposes.

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generosæ nobilitati vestræ humiliter supplicamus, quatinus, pro honore et amore gloriosi martiris Thomæ predicti, consilium et auxilium nobis impendere dignemini, pro hujusmodi arreragiis et defectibus recuperandis, et dilectis nobis in Chrito. Domino Johanni Launge militi, et Johanni dicto Anglico, ac Roberto de Longo-jumello, civibus Parisiensibus, procuratoribus nostris in hac parte, vel uni ipsorum assignandis et liberandis. Valeat et vigeat vestra dominacio per matris Christi et Beati Thomæ martiris prædicti merita gloriosa. Data in capitulo nostro primo, die mensis Junii, anno Domini MCCCXXIJ.

Et, in augmentum meriti majoris et præmii specialis, placeat vobis Dominum Regem Franciæ precibus sollicitare, quod hujusmodi liberalitatem regiam progenitorum suorum et vestrorum dignetur, per suas patentes litteras, confirmare. Nos vero Regi regum altissimo pro incolumitate vestra hostias offerimus sacrificii salutaris, et glorioso Martiri Thomæ prædicto preces effundimus speciales.

1 June 1322.

L. 133 *a*.

68.—Littera clausa Domino Karolo Regi Franciæ pro vinis nostris.

Appealing also, in almost the same words as before, to the King himself.

Excellentissimo principi Domino Karolo Dei gratia Regi Franciæ illustri, sui humiles et devoti Henricus Prior et Capitulum Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, salutem et orationum suffragia devotarum. Cum celebris memoriæ Dominus Ludovicus quondam Rex Franciæ, ob devocionem et dilectionem quas habuit ad beatum et gloriosum martirem Thomam, dudum Ecclesiæ nostræ Archiepiscopum, nobis et Ecclesiæ nostræ prædictæ centum modios vini in perpetuam elemosinam concesserit, percipiendos in castellaria Pissiaci annuatim. Et licet ministri vestri de Pissiaco arreragia et defectus hujusmodi liberalitatis regiæ per sex annos proxime præteritos per sacramentum legalium virorum singulis annis, appreciaverint, tamen pretium hujusmodi arreragiorum et defectuum nobis hactenus non solverunt. Quocirca serenitati regiæ humiliter supplicamus ut, pro honore et amore gloriosi martiris Thomæ prædicti, Thesaurariis vestris præcipere dignemini, quod hujusmodi arreragia et defectus munificentiæ regalis de sex annis proxime præteritis dilectis nobis in Christo Domino Johanni Launge militi, Johanni dicto Anglico, ac Roberto de Longo-jumello, civibus Parisiensibus, procuratoribus nostris in hac parte, vel uni ipsorum assignari faciant et liberari;

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1 June 1322.

L. 133 *a*.

70.—Littera missa Johanni Langlois,[1] Civi Parisiensi, pro vinis Franciæ.

A private letter to one of the

A son trescher et bien aime en Dieu Sire Johan Langlois, Burgeis de Paris, Henri Prieur, etc. saluz,

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[1] This letter is evidently addressed to J. L' Anglais, *the Johannes dictus Anglicus* of the power of attorney.

et, in augmentum meriti majoris et præmii specialis, hujusmodi liberalitatem regiam progenitorum vestrorum per vestras patentes litteras dignemini confirmare. Nos vero Regi Regum Altissimo pro incolumitate regia celsitudo vestra [1] hostias offerimus &c. Data etc. primo die mensis Junii anno Domini ut supra.

69.—Procuratorium pro vinis Franciæ.

1 June 1322.

L. 133 *a*.

The Prior and Chapter appoint three citizens of Paris to be their agents in collecting the wine of St. Thomas.

Universis pateat per præsentes quod nos Henricus etc., facimus et constituimus per præsentes dilectos nobis in Christo Dominum Johannem Launge militem, et Johannem dictum Anglicum, ac Robertum de Longo Jumello, cives Parisienses, procuratores nostros et nuncios speciales, conjunctim et divisim et quemlibet ipsorum in solidum, ad petendum et recuperandum nomine nostro, a quibuscunque, vina et alia bona nostra, ac etiam arreragia eorundem, quæ nobis debentur in regno Franciæ ex largicione celebris memoriæ Ludovici quondam Regis Francorum (ac quorumcunque progenitorum suorum).[2] Et ad faciendum solventibus rationabiles acquietancias de omnibus receptis et recipiendis; ratum habituri quicquid per eosdem procuratores nostros, vel unum ipsorum, actum fuerit in præmissis, seu etiam expeditum. Præsentibus post octo menses minime valituris. Data &c. primo die Junii, anno Domini MCCCXXIJ.

70.

To his very dear and well-beloved in God the Sieur John L'Anglais, Burgess of Paris, Henry the Prior, &c.

[1] The phrase originally stood *pro incolumitate vestra*, but the writer in making his interlineation wrote *regia celsitudo* in the nominative, thus throwing his syntax into confusion.

[2] The words in brackets are added in the writing of William Sellyng, who was Prior of the Monastery at the end of the 15th century.

French agents.

et saunte de cors et dalme. Nous vous enveyoms les lettres nostre cher ame Monsire Johan Launge, et auxi, par le conseil le dit Monsire Johan, nos lettres patentes de procuration pur les vins Saint Thomas en Fraunce. Et vous prioms, pur le honur et lamour le dit Saint Thomas, qe il vous plese receivere noz ditez lettres et aides et counseiller pur recoverir les arrerages et les defautes de noz ditz vins de vj. aunz proscheinement passez; si come les vintz[1] ount este mis en pris chescun an par les bailliffs le Roi de Fraunce a Poisci, solunc ceo qe Robert de Longemel vous savera pleinement enformer. Et donez foy et creaunce al portour de ceste lettre endreit de ceo qe il vous priera et dirra (de) par[2] nous a ceste foith. A Dieu, qi soit garde de vous. Donez, etc. le premier jour de Juyn, lan de grace MCCCXXIJ.

I June 1322.

L. 133 *a*.

A similar letter to another of the agents.

71.—Littera R. de Longemel pro eodem.

A Robert de Longemel saluz. Nous enveyoms a vous nostre bien ame en Dieu A. de B. portour de cestes lettres, et par luy les lettres la Roigne Dengleterre, qe ele ad envoye au Roi de France et a Mounsire Challes[3] son uncle, pour les arrerages de noz vins en France, et auxi une lettre de procuration qi est faite, par le conseil Monsire Johan Launge, a luy, et a Johan Langlois, et a vous. Et vous prioms qe en ceste bosoigne voillez mettre aide et conseil, et parler al dit Johan Langlois sur meisme les busoignes. Et voillez crere al dit portour en ceo qe il vous dirra a ceste foith par[2] nous. Donez, etc. ut supra.

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[1] *Vintz* for *vinz*?
[2] *Par* for *pur*, or *de par*?
[3] Sic in MS.

greeting, and health of body and soul. We send you the letters of our dear friend Master John Launge, and also, by advice of the said Master John, our power of attorney for the wine of St. Thomas in France. And we beg you for the honour and love of the aforesaid Saint Thomas, that you will please to accept our said letters, and assist and advise in the recovery of the arrears and deficiencies of our said wines during the last six years, at the rates at which the wines have been appraised each year by the Bailliffs of the King of France at Poissy, as Robert de Lonjumeau will be able to inform you at large. And give trust and credence to the bearer of this letter in what he shall ask you, and tell you, on our part, at this time. God be with you, and be your ward. Given, &c. the 1st day of June, in the year of grace 1322.

71.

To Robert de Lonjumeau greeting. We send to you our well-beloved in God, A. de B., bearer of these letters, and by him the letters of the Queen of England, which she has sent for the King of France, and for the Lord Charles his uncle, for the arrears of our wines in France, and also a power of attorney which is drawn, by the advice of John Launge, in the names of himself, of John L'Anglais, and of yourself. And we pray you to give aid and advice in this matter, and to speak to the said John L'Anglais on the same subject. And please to give credence to the said bearer in all that he shall tell you on our behalf.

(June) 1322.

72.—Littera missa domino W. de Herlaston pro variis negotiis in cancellaria expediendis.

L. 133 *b*.

Instructions to the counsel of the Convent in the matters of Colepeper's forfeiture and the Sandwich taxes.

Prædilecto sibi in Christo domino W. de Herlaston Henricus permissione divina, etc. salutem, et gloriam illam quam nunciabant angeli, Christo nato. Grates vobis referimus quantas possumus, quia non sufficimus quas tenemur, pro felici expeditione negotiorum Ecclesiæ nostræ Cantuariensis prout per dominum Johannem de Ifeld, senscallum nostrum, nuper intelleximus satis plane. Verum quia habetis penes vos, ut dicitur, petitionem nostram, quam nuper coram auditore petitionum in ultimo parliamento apud Eboracum, pro bonis et catallis Walteri Colpeper, dampnati hominis et tenentis, nostri, recuperandis, juxta tenorem cartæ nostræ fecimus

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73.—Dockumb.

3 July 1322.

L. 133 *b*.

The great Devonshire lord is reminded that he has once acquiesced in the exemption of the tenants of Doccombe from taxation; and he is asked to observe this exemption. He is reminded that William de Tracy gave this manor to the Canter

A noble home et son bien ame en Dieu Monsire Hugh de Courtenay, Henry Priour del Esglise de Canterbire saluz, et saunte de corps et dalme. Sire, si vous remembrez nous vous monstrames, aucun temps a Londres, la chartre William de Traci[1] et la confirmacion le Roi Henri de la petite terre qe le dit William dona a nostre Esglise et a nous a Dockumbe, en pure et perpetuele almoigne pur la mort Saint Thomas. Et, Sire, a cele houre, vostre merci, vous mandastes et comandastes, par voz lettres a voz ministres en cel pays, qe il lessassent nous et noz hommes en pes de tote manere chalenges et demandes. Et pur ceo, trescher seignur et frere en Dieu, oncore vous prioms qe, pur lamour et la devocion qe vous avez a glorious Saint Thomas, vous ples mander et comander, par voz lettres a voz ministres en celes parties, qe ils ne fassent duresse ne grevaunce ne damage a nostre dite Esglise, ne a nous, ne a noz povres hommes,

[1] This charter is given in the Appendix, No. 11.

exhiberi; cui quidem petitioni responsum est quod, inspecta carta nostra, fiat nobis justitia juxta tenorem ejusdem cartæ; mittimus vobis per dilectum nobis in Christo H. de Stur', hanc cartam nostram inspiciendam, dilectionem vestram corditer deprecantes quatinus, inspecta carta nostra prædicta, placeat vobis de congruo nobis remedio providere. Adhuc, Dominus Rex mandavit breve suum Ballivis suis de Sandwyco, cujus copiam vobis transmittimus præsentibus involutam. Et quia per hoc breve nullum remedium habere possumus, propter causas in dorso cedulæ prædictæ copiæ contentas, dilectam amicitiam vestram requirimus et rogamus, quatinus remedium nobis facere velitis super præmissis, juxta formam petitionis nostræ in dorso dictæ cedulæ contentam.

73.

To the noble and his well-beloved in God, Sir Hugh de Courtenay, Henry, Prior of the Church of Canterbury, greeting, and health of body and soul. Sire, if you remember we once upon a time showed to you at London the charter of William de Traci, and the confirmation by King Henry, of a little estate which the said William gave to our Church and us at Dockumbe, in pure and perpetual alms, on account of the death of Saint Thomas. And, Sire, at that time, and we thank you for it, you sent and commanded by your letters to your officers in that country, that they should leave us and our tenants quit of all kinds of claims and demands. And therefore, very dear Lord and brother in God, again we pray you, that for the love and devotion which you bear to the glorious Saint Thomas, that you will be pleased to send and command by your letters to your officers in those parts, that they are not to inflict hardship, nor trouble, nor injury, upon our said Church nor

bury Convent as an atonement for his share in the murder of Archbishop Becket.

contre la volonte de Dieu et de dit corps saint Saint Thomas. Et si vous desirez de ver autre foith noz dites chartres, vous les verrez volenters, quant vous voudrez, a Londres ou aillours en noz parties. A Dieu, etc. Donez a Canterbire le iij^{m} jour de Juyl, lan de grace MCCCXXIJ.

8 July 1322.

74.—De canonizatione Domini Roberti Archiepiscopi.

fo. 134 *a*.

Thomas Earl of Lancaster, the promoter of the canonization of the late Archbishop Winchelsey, having been executed, his brother and successor is asked by the Prior to complete the imperfect process.

A son trescher et bien ame en Dieu Monsire Henri de Lancastre, Henri Priour, etc. Pur ceo qe le noble homme Monsire Thomas Counte de Lancastre, qi Dieux assoille, vostre frere, ama moult nostre Arcevesque Robert en sa vie, et aveit grant desir qe le dit Arcevesque eust este canonize en son temps, al honur de Dieu et de Sainte Esglise, et aveit bien comence la busoigne avant sa morte, si come Mestre Rauf de Hoghton son clerk, portour de cestes lettres, vous saura pleynement monstrer; nous vous prioms devoutement qe, pur le honur et lamour de Dieu et de Saint Thomas, voillez aver recomende les busoignes de la dite canonizacioun, et ceo qe vostre dit frere aveit bien comence, vous plese avancer, et au coer prendre, quant vous verrez temps covenable. A Dieu, etc. Donez a Canterbirs le viij. jour de Juyl, lan de grace Mil CCCXXIJ.

11 July 1322.

75.—De servientibus Prioris et Conventus non mittendis ad Scotiam.

L. 134 *a*.

The Prior reports to the King's recruiting commissioners

A son trescher et bien ame en Dieu Monsire Th. de Sandwyz Henri par la suffrance, &c. saluz, et la joye qe touz jours dure. Nous vous mercioms moult de ceo qe vous nous mandastes nadgeres par Henri de Stoke nostre clerk; et pur ceo qe nous avoms

upon us, nor upon our poor tenants, contrary to the will of God and of the said holy body of Saint Thomas. And if you wish a second time to see our said charters, you shall see them willingly whenever you will, either at London or elsewhere in our parts. Adieu, &c. Given at Canterbury, the 3rd day of July, in the year of grace 1322.

74.

To his very dear and well-beloved in God, the Lord Henry of Lancaster, Henry Prior, &c. Whereas the noble Lord Thomas Earl of Lancaster, whom God absolve, your brother, greatly loved our Archbishop Robert during his life, and had a great wish that the said Archbishop should have been canonised in his own days, for the honour of God and of Holy Church, and had indeed begun the process before his death, as Master Ralph de Hoghton his clerk, bearer of these letters, can clearly show; we pray you devoutly, that for the honour and the love of God, and of Saint Thomas, you will favour the matter of the said canonization, and thus that you will please to promote that which your brother had so well begun, and have it at heart, when you see a convenient opportunity. Adieu, &c. Given at Canterbury, the 8th day of July, in the year of grace 1322.

75.

To his very dear and well-beloved in God Sir Thomas de Sandwich, Henry by the permission, &c. greeting, and everlasting joy. We thank you much for what you have lately reported to us by Henry de Stoke our clerk; and whereas we have learnt that certain people, through

that he has already compounded by payment of money, and that his dependents are therefore not liable to be pressed for the Scottish war.

entendu qe ascunes gentz, par male voillaunce, ount nome a vous, et a Monsire John Sauvage vostre compaignon, Edmund de Heigham gardien de nostre almoigne quest assigne a povres, et Dyonis nostre keu qi fait la viande nostre Covent, et Will. de Boywyk gardien de nostre chambre, et Wauter ate Bregg nestre provost de Broke, qi est de quatre vintz auns ou plus, et moult dautres de noz serjauntz daler en Escoce ovesq les gents de par del counte de Kent; sachez, Sire, qe nostre Seignur le Roy nous manda nadgeres, en priant par ses lettres, de luy aider des gentz darmes ou en autre covenable manere, sicome nous le puissions meux faire sanz meschef, pur les grantz busoignes qe il ad a faire; et par ceo qe nous ne poems deporter sanz grant meschef noz ditz serjauntz, qi servent a nostre Covent et a nous chescun jour, nous avoms aide a nostre dit Seignur le Roy covenablement en deners, pur ses busoignes esploiter, et pur nostre esement aver de noz serjauntz. Et par ceo nous vous prioms cherement qe vous voillez aver nos ditz serjauntz excusez, (de) qi service nous ne poems deporter sanz nostre grant damage. Vostre bone volunte en ceste chose et en autres nous voillez remander par le portour de cestes lettres. A Dieu, etc. Donez a Canterbire le xj^{m} jour de Juyl, lan de grace MCCCXXIJ.

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24 July 1322.

76.—De subsidio Domino Regi concesso: de marca v *d.*

L. 134 *a.*

The Prior appeals to the Archbishop about a difficulty in the payment of a tax of five pence in

Suo patri devotus filius id quod potest obedientiæ reverentiæ et honoris. Quia multi multa referunt sæpius et diversa, ideo viget in populo rara fides. Ecce pater contributionem subsidii quinque denariorum de marca nos et Conventum contingentem, Domino Regi Angliæ per prælatos et clerum in ultimo parliamento Eboraci concessi, de omnibus bonis nostris spiritualibus et temporalibus in diœcesibus Cantuariensi

ill will, have named to you and Sir John Savage your colleague, Edmund de Heigham the warden of our Almonry which is dedicated to the use of the poor, and Denis our cook who dresses the meat of our convent, and William de Boywyk our chamberlain, and Walter ate Bregg our provost at Brook, who is eighty years old or more, and many others of our servants as fit to go to Scotland with the levy of the County of Kent; know then, Sire, that the King lately sent to us praying us by his letters to assist him with men-at arms, or in some other convenient manner as we best could without injury, in the great enterprises which he has in hand; and seeing that we cannot send away, without great loss, our said servants who serve our Convent and ourselves daily, we have helped our said Lord the King proportionably with money, so as to aid in the carrying out of his designs, and at the same time so as to consult our own convenience in the matter of our servants. Hence we heartily pray you to excuse our said servants, with whose attendance we cannot dispense without great loss. Be pleased to inform us of your good pleasure in this and other matters by the bearer of these letters. Adieu. Given at Canterbury the 11th day of July in the year of grace 1322.

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et Roffensi, dudum optulimus Commissario vestro Cantuariensi persolvendam, data nobis acquietancia de soluto. Et quia nullam inde acquietanciam hactenus nobis fecit, per ipsum stetit quominus fuit sibi soluta portio hujus subsidii nos contingens. Verum, licet hujusmodi subsidium, Domino Regi alias per clerum concessum, aliquando solverimus Commissario et collectoribus ejusdem subsidii per vos in vestra Cantuariensis diœcesi deputatis, per varias citationes ad loca remota et

the mark granted by the clergy to the King in a Parliament at York.

graves censuras ecclesiasticas, nos multipliciter molestarunt; et demum, ad Scaccarium Domini Regis, maliciose procuraverunt quod Vicecomites diversorum comitatuum, in quibus bona nostra consistunt, bona nostra ceperunt et vendiderunt pro hujusmodi subsidio dictis collectoribus non soluto, non obstante solutione prædicti subsidii prius facta Commissario et collectoribus ejusdem subsidii per vos in Cantuariensi diœcesi deputatis. Et ideo, ad vitandum hujusmodi dispendia et rerum jacturas, fratres nostri concorditer ordinaverunt quod, subsidium quinque denariorum de marca, ad præsens Domino Regi concessum et qualitercunque eidem imposterum concedendum, solvatur de cætero in singulis diœcesibus collectoribus ejusdem subsidii in eisdem diœcesibus deputatis, et quod, tota portio hujusmodi subsidii nos contingens in diœcesi vestra Cantuariensi et Roffensi Commissario et collectoribus vestris ejusdem subsidii in diœcesi Cantuariensi deputatis solvatur. Scientes pater quod totam portionem instantis subsidii Domino Regi concessi quæ nos contingit, in diœcesibus Norwicensi, Lincolniensi, et Exoniensi, solvimus collectoribus ejusdem subsidii in eisdem diœcesibus deputatis. Collectores vero dicti subsidii diœcesibus Londoniensi, Wyntoniensi, et Cicestrensi, portionem nostram in hac parte, sæpius sibi oblatam, hactenus recipere noluerunt, nec etiam recipient, ut dicunt, quousque super hoc aliquod receperint a vobis mandatum. Præmissa vero omnia disponenda vestro relinquimus arbitrio circumspecto. Valeat vestra paternitas reverenda in Christo. Data Cantuariæ ix° Kal. Augusti, anno Domini MCCCXXIJ.

1 Aug. 1322.

L. 135 *b*.

A general release given by

77.—QUIETA CLAMANTIA FACTA EXECUTORI TESTAMENTI ET HEREDIBUS MICHAELIS ATE WATER.

Universis pateat per presentes quod, nos Henricus permissione divina Prior etc. remisimus, et relaxavimus, ac quietum clamavimus, Johanni ate Chambre

executori testamenti Michaelis ate Water defuncti, et Thomæ ate Water filio et heredi prædicti Michaelis, omnes actiones, querelas, et demandas, quas versus eosdem habuimus seu habere poterimus, ratione servitii prædicti Michaelis, pro toto tempore quo idem Michaelis fuit in servitio nostro apud Clyve. Ita quod nos, vel successores nostri, nec aliquis nomine nostro, ab eisdem Johanne et Thoma, occasione prædicta, aliquid exigere seu vendicare poterimus in futurum. In cujus rei testimonium etc. Data Cantuariæ primo die mensis Augusti, anno regni Regis Edwardi filii Regis Edwardi XVJ^mo.

the Prior to the estate of a deceased servant and tenant.

78.—De terra et catallis Johannis Power de Wodeton, fugitivi. 11 Aug. 1322.

L. 135 *b*.

Henricus permissione etc. Johanni ate Herne firmario suo de Wodeton salutem. Quia terra et tenementa, bona et catalla Johannis Power, hominis et tenentis nostri fugitivi, sunt in manu nostra, et ad nos et Ecclesiam nostram pertinent, ratione fugæ prædicti Johannis, mandamus et præcipimus quod omnes terras et tenementa, bona et catalla, que fuerunt prædicti Johannis, in potestate et dominio nostro salvo et secure custodias. Ita quod de hujusmodi bonis et catallis, et de omnibus exitibus et proventibus terrarum et tenementorum prædictorum nobis fideliter et integraliter possis respondere, quandocunque per nos, vel senescallum libertatis nostræ, super hiis fueris præmunitus. Et ista fideliter facias et exequaris, sicut teipsum indempnem volueris conservare; nec permittas quod aliquis alius de hujusmodi terris, bonis et catallis se intromittat, nec ad ea manus apponat, sine speciali mandato nostro, vel seneschalli nostri prædicti. Quid autem super præmissis hactenus feceritis, vel imposterum facere te contingat, nobis scire facias, in propria persona vel per litteras tuas sub sigillo tuo, in festo Nativitatis Beatæ Mariæ

The Prior sequestrates the estate of a tenant who has become a felon and a fugitive.

proximo futuro. Data apud Broke juxta Wy, in crastino Sci. Laurentii, anno regni Regis Edwardi filii Regis Edwardi XVJ.

1 Aug. 1322.

L. 135 *a*.

79.—De Subsidio, quinque denariorum de marca, Domino Regi concesso, soluto collectoribus in diversis diœcesibus.

The Prior's former letter concerning the subsidy of five pence in the mark having vexed the Archbishop, he again trys to explain his difficulty.

Suo patri &c. Turbatio animi vestri absque causa et sine culpa mea angit intima cordis mei. Scientes quod ante receptionem ultimæ litteræ quam die Sancti Petri ad Vincula recepi, et etiam alterius litteræ vestræ prius mihi directæ, tota portio subsidii, quinque denariorum de marca, Domino Regi concessi, quæ nos contingit in omnibus diœcesibus provinciæ Cantuariensis, oblata fuit Commissario vestro Cantuariensi collectori ejusdem subsidii per vos deputato; qui respondit mihi quod vos reservastis vobis receptionem totius hujusmodi subsidii in decanatibus exemptis. Et ideo de hujusmodi decanatibus exemptis aliquid recipere noluit, nec potuit ut dicebat. Et ideo ad vitandum pœnas et censuras ecclesiasticas nobis comminatas, in diversis diœcesibus vestræ provinciæ in quibus bona nostra consistunt, solvimus nuper portionem nos contingentem in eisdem diœcesibus collectoribus earundem diœcesium, sicut ab antiquo et communiter hactenus solebamus. Et, si talia subsidia pro bonis nostris in diversis diœcesibus solvere deberemus collectori Cantuariensi per vos deputato vel deputando, oportet vos singulis collectoribus aliarum diœcesium, per vestras litteras, inhibere ne a nobis aliquid exigerent pro tali subsidio sibi solvendo. Die vero Sancti Petri prædicto iterum, sicut alias frequenter, tota portio dicti subsidii nos contingens pro omnibus bonis nostris in civitatibus et diœcesibus Cantuariensi et Roffensi existentibus oblata fuit magistro R. Commissario vestro Cantuariensi, juxta mandatum vestrum mihi directum, qui hujusmodi potionem hactenus recipere noluit, nec etiam ipso die.

Per ipsum igitur stetit et stat, et non per alium, dilatio solutionis prædictæ. Et ideo habeatis me in hac parte excusatum. Valeat vestra paternitas reverenda. Data Cantuariæ primo die mensis Augusti, anno Domini MCCCXXIJ.

(Aug.) 1322.

80.—Excusatio de permutatione ecclesiæ Sci. Dunstani Londoniarum.[1]

L. 135 *b*.

The rectors of St. Dunstan's in the East, by successive exchanges, having infringed the rights of the Chapter of Canterbury, so that out of four vacancies the patrons had not once freely presented, they in a letter to the Archbishop decline to allow a repetition of the process.

Venerabili, &c. Henricus Prior et Capitulum &c. salutem. Super hiis quæ nuper nobis per vestras litteras insinuastis vobis rescribimus nostra motiva. Sciat igitur paternitas vestra, quod ecclesia Sci. Dunstani in Londoniis, quæ de patronatu nostro existit, quarto jam vacavit, et singulis vicibus per viam permutationis. Et licet præsentatio ejusdem ecclesiæ ad nos de jure pertinere dinoscatur, tamen hujusmodi præsentatio nostra per aliqua tempora mera et libera non extitit, sed potius extorta precibus diversorum. Ne igitur hujusmodi permutatio ejusdem ecclesiæ toties continuata præjudicium nobis afferat in futurum, ad dictam ecclesiam Sci. Dunstani proximo vacaturam ordinavimus, de communi consensu, personam ydoneam mere et libere præsentare. Quocirca paternitatem vestram requirimus et rogamus quatinus habere velitis, si placet, nos in hac parte, ex causis præmissis, excusatos. Valeat et vigeat, &c.

(Aug.) 1322.

81.—Item de eodem.

L. 135 *b*.

A letter from the Chapter to the Diocesan of St. Dunstan's on the same subject.

Venerabili in Christo patri Domino S(tephano) Dei gratia Londoniensi Episcopo, devoti filii sui Henricus permissione ejusdem, &c. cum omni reverentia et honore, salutem. Receptis nuper litteris deprecatoriis venerabilis patris nostri Domini W(alteri)Dei gratia Cantuariensis Archiepiscopi, pro quodam clerico suo ad

[1] Several records relating to the manner in which the Convent obtained the patronage of its London benefices are printed in the Appendix (No. 6, &c.).

ecclesiam Sci. Dunstani juxta Thurrim Londoniarum, quæ de patronatu nostro existit, tunc, ut dicebatur, vacantem, caritatis intuitu, præsentando; rescripsimus dicto patri quod, ante receptionem hujusmodi litterarum suarum ordinavimus ad dictam ecclesiam, si tunc vacasset, aliam personam idoneam præsentare, quominus illa vice potuimus annuere votis suis. Verum, pater reverende, quia dicta ecclesia Sci. Dunstani hactenus jam quarto vacavit, et quatuor rectores ejusdem per viam permutationis continue successerunt, ne hujusmodi permutationes totiens continuatæ præjudicium nobis afferant in futurum, ex certis urgentibus causis, decrevimus ad dictam ecclesiam proximo vacaturam personam idoneam, sine colore quæsito, mere et libere præsentare. Quocirca paternitatem vestram requirimus et rogamus quatinus habere velitis si placet nos, ex causis præmissis, excusatos. Valeat, &c.

16 Aug. 1322.

L. 122 *a*.

A second letter to

82.—De permutacione ecclesiæ Sancti Dunstani.

Venerabili in Christo patri Domino S(tephano) Dei gratia Londoniensi Episcopo, devoti sui H. permissione

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24 Aug. 1322.

L. 122 *a*.

The Prior asks the royal commissioner of Marsh Sewers to appoint a day for investigating the sea-walls at Monkton.

83.—De Wallis de Monketone et de contributione tenentium ad dictas Wallas.

A sun trescher et bien amee en Deux Monsire Eadmond de Passele, Henri par la soffronce de Deu Priour, &c. salutz, cum a son corps demene. Par ceo qe nous avoms entendu qe vous aves une commissioun a[1] surver le wallis e les wateringes par tote les costieres de mer en le conte de Kent, e a porver e ordiner covenable remedie por sovacioun de teres ke sunt desutz peril de mer; nous vous prioms chierement e fiablement ke vous voyletz ordiner e assigner

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[1] *et* MS.

ejusdem Prior et Capitulum Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, cum omni reverentia et honore, salutem. Super hiis quæ pridie nobis per vestras litteras insinuastis, quoad permutacionem ecclesiæ Sancti Dunstani juxta Thurrim Londoniarum, quæ de patronatu nostro esse dinoscitur, acceptandam, vobis rescribimus quæ sentimus. Cum igitur dicta ecclesiæ Sancti Dunstani pluries hactenus vacaverit, et plures rectores ejusdem ecclesiæ per viam permutacionis eandem ecclesiam continue tenuerunt, ne hujusmodi permutaciones dictæ ecclesiæ tociens iteratæ et continuatæ præjudicium nobis afferant in futurum, quod verisimiliter formidamus, ex certis et urgentibus causis, censuimus ad eandem ecclesiam sine condicione aliqua proximo vacaturam personam idoneam, non quæsito colore set mere et libere præsentare. Quocirca paternitatem vestram requirimus et rogamus quatinus habere velitis si placet nos in hac parte, ex causis præmissis, excusatos. Valeat et vigeat vestra paternitas reverenda in Christo, per suæ Matris et Beati Martiris Thomæ merita gloriosa. Data in Capitulo nostro in crastino Assumpcionis Beatæ Mariæ anno Domini M° CCC° vicesimo secundo.

the Bishop of London on the same subject.

83.

To his very dear and well-beloved in God, Sir Edmond de Passele, Henry, by God's permission Prior, &c. such health as he desires for his own person. Whereas we have heard that you have a commission to survey the sea-walls and the watergangs on all the sea coasts in Kent, and to provide and settle proper means for the preservation of such lands as are in peril of the sea; we pray you heartily, and confidently, that you will fix and assign a certain day when you can be at Monkton in the Isle of Thanet, in order to survey the sea-walls and watergangs which are in that part of the coast, and to

un certein jour kant vous porret estre a Monketone en le Isle de Tànet, pur surver le walles e le wateringes ke sunt en cele costere de mer, e a purver e ordiner remedie pur nous e autres ke tenoms teres soutz peril de mer en cele parties; e sur ceo voylet(z) mandier bref a Viscounte de Kent, kil face venir devont vous, a mesmes cel jour e luy, touz ceuz ke tyenent terres sur peril de myer a Monketone, e autre bone gentz e leaus de hondred de Ringeslo ki est en mesme lisle de Tanet, par queus vous purrez meuz enquerer la verite coment les terres qe sont suz peril de myer en le dit luy pussent meus estre sauve contre peril. E sachetz, Sire, ke sons vostre presence personele ne porroms aver remedie de dammages ke nous avoms en cele parties contre la lay e lusage maresche. Vostre volonte sur ceste chose me voilet(z) (man)dier par le portour de ceste lettres. Datum, &c. die Sci. Bartholomei.

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25 Aug. 1322.

84.—Pro Notariis papalibus impetrandis.

L. 122 *a*.

The Prior asks Rigaud de Asserio, the Bishop of Winchester, to appoint three named persons to be notaries by Apostolical authority.

Venerabili in Christo patri domino . . . . Dei gratia Wyntoniensi Episcopo, devotus filius Henricus Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, cum omni reverentia et honore, salutem illam quam peperit puerpera singularis. Devotis petentium desideriis quæ a rationis tramite non deviant solet clementer annuere dignitas pastoralis. Cum igitur in regno Angliæ sint pauci Notarii publici auctoritate papali, et in plerisque civitatibus omnino nulli resideant hiis diebus, acta judicialia per Sedem Apostolicam et per inferiores ordinarios locorum michi commissa, ac etiam contractus et cetera quæ in publicam habent redigi formam frequenter penitus, et in multorum dispendium, retardantur. Quocirca paternitati vestræ humiliter supplico et devote, quatinus tres tabelliones vel saltem duos, quorum nomina vobis scribo in cedula præsen-

appoint and provide means for us and the others who hold lands in those parts which are in peril of the sea, and moreover that you will be pleased to send a mandate to the Sheriff of Kent, that he may cause to come before you, at that same day and place, all those who hold lands in peril of the sea at Monkton, and other good folk of the Hundred of Ringslo, which is contained in the said Isle of Thanet, by whose information you may best search out the truth as to how such lands as are in peril of the sea in the aforesaid place may best be saved from danger. And take notice, Sir, that without your personal presence we shall not be able to obtain reparation for the damages which we endure in those parts, in spite of law and marsh customs. Be pleased to report your intentions on this matter by the bearer of these letters. On S. Bartholomew's day.

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tibus interclusa, et quos ydoneos ad hujusmodi officium reputo, bona fide creare velitis si placet, et ad hujusmodi officium acceptare, et super hoc michi vestras litteras autenticas destinare. Valeat et vigeat, &c. Data Cantuariæ xxv^to^ die Augusti, anno Domini MCCCXXIJ.

85.—De firma de Merseye: conventio ultima cum Johanne le Doo. 29 Sept. 1322.

L. 134 *b*.

A lease for twelve years of the soil, crops, and stock of the manor of West Mersey in

Noverint universi, quod, in festo Sancti Michælis anno regni Regis Edwardi filii Regis Edwardi sextodecimo, ita convenit inter Priorem et Conventum ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis ex parte una tradentes, et Johannem le Doo de Atlebrigge recipientem ex altera, videlicet, quod prædicti Prior et Conventus dimiserunt, et ad firmam tradiderunt dicto J., manerium suum de West Merseye in Comitatu Essex, cum omnimodis fructibus

Essex, granted by the Chapter of Christ Church, Canterbury, to John le Doo.

et exitibus ejusdem anni de dicto manerio provenientibus; videlicet, cum cropa frumenti de xxxvij. acris et dimidia seminatis, cropa de mixtilione de iiij^{or}. acris et dimidia seminatis, cropa ordei de vij. acris seminatis, cropa fabarum et pisorum de quinque acris seminatis, cropa vescarum de iiij^{or} acris seminatis, et cropa avenarum de xl. acris seminatis, in grangia dictorum Prioris et Conventus integre repositis; et cum toto stauro in prædicto manerio, festo et anno prædictis, remanente et existente; videlicet, vj. stottos pretium cujuslibet x. *s.*, iij. boves pretium cujuslibet xij. *s.*, xxviij. multones pretium cujuslibet xv. *d.*, iij. hurtardos pretium cujuslibet xx. *d.*, *x*l. oves matrices pretium cujuslibet xij. *d.*, xiiij hoggastros et xix. gerces pretium cujuslibet x. *d.*, xxxix. agnos pretium xx. *s.* vj. *d.*; habendum et tenendum prædictum manerium, cum redditibus et aliis proficuis inde proveni-entibus, una cum toto genere bladi et stauri prædicto, præfato Johanni, a prædicto festo Sci. Michaelis usque ad finem xij. annorum sequentium plenarie completorum; reddendo inde annuatim, eisdem Priori et Conventui vel ipsorum custodi, seu nuntio certo, in manerio suo de Bockyngg, viij. libras sterlingorum, ad terminos infrascriptos; videlicet, &c. Salvis eidem Priori et Conventui omnimodis escaetis et catallis hominum suorum felonum dampnatorum et fugitivorum durante firma prædicta. Præterea prefatus Johannes solvet annuatim infra terminum prædictum custodi manerii de Bockingg, qui pro tempore fuerit, sex solidos et viij. denarios, pro expensis suis ad supervidendum staurum dicti manerii de Merseye. Et prædictus Johannes sustentabit, suis propriis sumptibus, omnes domos, curtilagia, et clausturas totius manerii prædicti de Mersey, in bono et competenti statu, in coopertura, et claustura, durante termino firmæ prædictæ. Nec faciet aliquid wastum nec strepementum in domibus nec arboribus in eodem

manerio existentibus, vel ad idem pertinentibus. Et si contingat predictum Johannem, de voluntate et assensu dictorum Prioris et Conventus et per visum et ordinationem custodis de Bockyngg qui pro tempore fuerit, aliquam novam domum facere in manerio prædicto, quæ prius ibidem fieri non solebat, tunc omnes expensæ suæ rationabiles, quas circa hujusmodi domum apposuit, in solutione firmæ ejusdem anni, per testimonium dicti custodis, allocabuntur eidem. Et si contingat dictum Johannem in solutione prædictæ firmæ ad aliquem terminum in toto vel in parte deficere bene licebit prædictis Priori et Conventui per ballivos suos præfatum Johannem, per omnia bona sua mobilia et immobilia in potestate et feodo ipsorum, et per alios quoscunque ballivos, quos ad hoc duxerint eligendos, per omnia bona dicti Johannis mobilia et immobilia alibi ubicunque inventa, distringere facere, et destrictiones factas retinere, quousque, tam de dampnis habitis et expensis factis quam de principali debito, per præfatum Johannem eisdem Priori et Conventui plenarie fuerit satisfactum. Completo vero termino firmæ prædictæ, prædictum manerium, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis, et cum tota cropa cujuslibet generis bladi, et toto numero acrarum seminatarum, sicut prædictum est in grangiis prædictorum Prioris et Conventus fideliter et integre repositis, ac etiam totum staurum cum numero et pretio supra appreciato, ad prædictos Priorem et Conventum libere et absolute revertentur. Et si contingat quod, in fine ultimi anni prædictæ firmæ, non fuerint tot acræ seminatæ de quolibet genere bladi in dicto manerio sicut prædictum est, tunc præfatus Johannes reddet eisdem Priori et Conventui, in dicto manerio suo de Merseye, pro qualibet acra frumenti non seminata illo anno unum quarterium frumenti; et pro qualibet acra mixtilionis x. bussellos mixtilionis; et pro qualibet

acra ordei x. bussellos ordei; et pro qualibet acra fabarum et pisorum unum quarterium fabarum et pisorum; et pro qualibet acra vescarum quarterium vescarum; et pro qualibet acra avenarum non seminata illo anno xij. bussellos avenarum. Si vero præfatus Johannes infra terminum prædictorum xij. annorum obierit, tunc, in festo Sancti Michaelis post mortem ipsius Johannis proxime sequente, totum manerium prædictum de West Merseye, cum cropa cujuslibet generis bladi et toto stauro, et cum omnibus aliis pertinentiis suis, soluta firma ejusdem anni prout supradictum est, ad dictos Priorem et Conventum libere et integre revertentur, sine contradictione aliqua heredum vel executorum testamenti dicti Johannis, seu aliorum quorumcunque. Ad quæ omnia et singula præmissa fideliter tenenda, facienda, et observanda, ego Johannes prædictus obligo me, et heredes meos, et executores testamenti mei, et omnia bona mea mobilia et immobilia, ad quorumcunque manus devenerint in futurum. Et ad majorem securitatem omnium præmissorum, nos Willelmus Morel de Bockyngg, Radulfus Doreward de eadem, Bartholomeus Lyoun, Edmundus le Cupper, Nicholas le Cam, et Johannes filius Thomæ de Bredeford, ad prædicta omnia fideliter facienda, tenenda, et observanda, obligamus nos et nostra, tenore præsentium, conjunctim et divisim, omnes eodem modo quo prædictus Johannes se et sua superius obligavit, et nos debiti prædicti principales constituimus debitores. In cujus rei testimonium, &c.

29 Oct. 1322.

L. 122 *b*.

86.—De Bulla provisionis Rogeri Digge in forma pauperum.

The Prior refers to the Arch-

Suo patri &c. Accedens nuper ad me procurator Rogeri Dygge de Bereham, copiam cujusdam bullæ in

forma pauperum mihi exhibuit inspiciendam, cujus transcriptum vobis transmitto in cedula præsentibus interclusum. Et quia hujusmodi negotium specialiter vos contingit, nolui super præmissis aliquid attemptare antequam vobis de eodem negotio per me aliquid constaret. Quid igitur vobis in hac parte fieri placuerit vel omitti, mihi si placet per bajulum præsentium significare velitis. Valeat vestra paternitas sancta in Christo. Data Cantariæ xxix. die Octobris anno Domini MCCCXXIJ^do.

bishop the question of a papal bull of *provision* given to Roger Digge, a poor clerk.

87.—Littera pro excusatione residentiæ W. de Selveston Rectoris ecclesiæ de Broke.

11 Nov. 1322.

L. 122 *b*.

Discretis viris Magistris J. de Bruyton et aliis causarum Curiæ domini Archiepiscopi Cantuariensis auditoribus, H(enricus) permissione divina Prior, &c. salutem et tocius salutis Auctorem. Quia dictus venerabilis pater dominus noster Cantuariensis, ad instanciam nostram, sui gratia, nuper concessit quod Willelmus de Selvestona Rector ecclesiæ de Broke juxta Wy, Cantuariensis diœcesis, per biennium studio litterarum insistens, et Dominus Robertus de Tunstall Rector ecclesiæ Sancti Dunstani in Londoniis, nostris et Conventus nostri obsequiis intendens, ab ecclesiis suis prædictis se valeant interim absentare. Discretionem vestram et dilectionem requirimus et rogamus, quatinus in instanti vocatione rectorum non residencium coram dicto patre, dictos Willelmum et Robertum habere velitis, ex causis præmissis, favorabiliter excusatos; scientes quod neuter ipsorum ecclesias suas ad firmam tradidit nec tradere intendit. Valete &c., Data Cantuariæ die Sancti Martini, anno Domini MCCCXXIJ^do.

The Archbishop's officials are requested not to summon, for non-residence, two rectors who have obtained leave of absence.

6 Dec. 1322.

88.—De provisione Rogeri Dygge et de examinatione testium super habilitatem ejusdem.

L. 122 *b*.

The Prior testifies to the Archbishop that Roger Digge of Barham has proved himself fit to receive a benefice by passing a satisfactory examination.

Suo patri devotus filius id quod potest obedientiæ, reverentiæ, et honoris. Ad importunam instanciam procuratoris Rogeri dicti Diggs de Bereham, clerici, de cujus provisione vobis constat, examinati, sunt plures testes super habilitate et ydoneitate ejusdem Rogeri ad beneficium ecclesiasticum optinendum, et deponunt concorditer omnes testes, quod nichil canonicum obsistit eidem Rogero quominus beneficum ecclesiasticum, cum cura vel sine cura, valeat recepere et retinere. Cogitetis igitur si placet de negotio dicti Rogeri, vel per viam provisionis sibi concessæ, seu per gratiæ vestræ specialis quæ fructuosior erit sibi. Valeat et vigeat, et de partibus Egipti prospere redeat Dominus meus pater et pastor. Data Cantuariæ sexto die Decembris anno. Domini MCCCXXIJ^do.

16 Dec. 1322.

89.—Littera inquisitionis de terra Cuapelin et aliis escaetis apud Eastriam et alibi in eadem custodia.

L. 122 *b*.

The Prior directs his bailiff to inquire as to the rent and tenants of certain lands in Eastry manor, and also as to escheated lands there and elsewhere.

Henricus permissione divina Prior, etc., dilecto sibi in Christo Ricardo de Trulegh ballivo suo, salutem. Mandamus tibi, quod in proxima Curia nostra apud Eastriam tenenda inquiras qui tenent terras quæ vocantur Cuapelin in tenura de Eastria; et quid et quantum quilibet eorum tenentium tenet de terra prædicta; et quid et quantum, cui et ad quem terminum, quilibet ipsorum reddit annuatim pro terra prædicta. Inquiras etiam diligenter ibidem, et in omnibus aliis maneriis nostris in ballivia tua, de escaetis quæ nobis acciderunt in itinere Magistri Rogeri de

Seyton, et in itinere Johannis de Reygate, et in itinere Johannis de Berewyk, et in itinere Hervey de Stanton; et de omnibus aliis escaetis quæ nobis acciderunt a tempore prædicti Magistri Rogeri usque nunc, per fugam vel utlagheriam aliquorum, vel ex alia quacunque causa. Et de nominibus omnium ipsorum qui hujusmodi escaetis tenent, et per quorum dimissiones illas receperunt, et a quo tempore illas tenuerunt, et quid cui et quantum reddunt annuatim pro hujusmodi escaetis tenendis. Et quid per hujusmodi inquisitionem inveneris nos per litteras tuas distincte et aperte, quamcito poteris, significare non omittas. Data Cantuariæ x^mo die Decembris anno regni Regis Edwardi filii Regis Edwardi xvj^mo.

90.—De custodia Portæ interioris juxta Aulam hospitum data Galfrido de Londoniis et de caucione robæ. 11 Dec. 1322. L. 123 *a*.

Universis ad quos præsentes litteræ pervenerint, Galfridus de Londoniis filius Johannis dicti de Cantuaria salutem in Domino. Noverit universitas vestra quod Dominus Henricus Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, de gratia sua speciali concessit michi custodiam portæ interioris Curiæ, juxta Aulam hospitum, in prioratu prædicto, et liberationem ad custodiam ejusdem portæ spectantem, et robas suas; quamdiu sibi placuerit prædicta omnia habenda, percipienda, et tenenda. In cujus, etc. Data Cantuariæ xj^mo die mensis Decembris anno Domini mcccxij^o, regni vero Regis Edwardi filii Regis Edwardi xvj^mo. G. of London son of J. of Canterbury, announces his appointment to the office keeper of the court gate of Christ Church.

(1322.) L. 132 *b.*

91.—Ceo est la peticioun le Priour et le Covent del Esglise de Cantorbirs de la terre W. de Colepeper ad Farlegh.

The Convent ask the King to give them, for the endowment of their new Chapel in the Almonry, the land which W. Colepeper held of them, and his personal goods, both forfeited to the King through his share in Badelsmere's treason.

Treschier Seignur. Pur ceoqe Wauter Colpeper tint de nous une petite terre en East Farlegh, qe est del fee de vostre Esglise de Cantorbirs, et ceste terre et ses chateulx sunt ore en vostre main par sa forfaiture; nous vous prioms, treschier Seignur, pur lamour et lonur de Dieu et de Seint Thomas, vous plese graunter a nous cele partie de terre, et les chateux qi furent al dit Wauter, en aide de la sustenaunce de vij. prestres, qi chanteront touz jours pur vous et pur voz heirs et pur toutz noz autres amis.

Ad istam petitionem fuit responsum per consilium apud Eboracum in festo Sancti Johannis anno Edwardi xvj°, et petitio liberata Cancellario—"Videatur carta et secundum "tenorem cartæ fiat ei justicia."

(1322.) L. 132 *b.*

92. — Ceo est la peticioun le Priour et le Covent del Esglise de Cantorbirs pur la meson Mestre Wauter de Greneweye.

The Convent ask the King to allow an addition to be made to their *licence in mortmain*, granted by him, to enable them to endow their new chapel.

Treschier Seignur. Nous avoms purchacie partie de terre et de rente, par vostre conge, pur la sustenaunce de vij. prestres, qi chanteront toutz jours pur vous et voz heirs en la novele chapele, qe nous avoms fait en le noun de Nostre Dame et de Seint Thomas a Cantorbirs. Et Leschetour ad trove par bone enqueste, qe la terre et la rente qe nous avoms purchacie nest a damage ne a nuisaunce de vous, Sire, ne de nul autre; et qe une petite mesoun qe nous avoms purchacie, qe[1] est tenu de vous en Cantorbirs par la service de un soul dener rendant a vous par an, et a

[1] If this *qe* be removed, the sentence will have a meaning.

91.

Well-beloved Lord. Whereas Walter Colpeper held from us a little estate in East Farleigh, which is in the fee of your own Church of Canterbury, and this estate and his personal goods are now in your hands in consequence of his forfeiture ; we beseech you, our well-beloved Lord, for the love and honour of God and of Saint Thomas, that you will please to grant to us this portion of land and these goods which belonged to the said Walter, in aid of the maintenance of seven priests, who daily shall sing masses for you and your heirs, and for all our other benefactors.

92.

Well-beloved Lord. We have, by your licence, acquired a portion of land and some yearly rent for the maintenance of seven priests, who shall daily sing masses for you and your heirs in the new chapel which we have founded and dedicated at Canterbury in the names of our Lady and St. Thomas. Also, the Escheator has found by formal inquisition that our acquisition of the land and rent does not tend to damage or injury to you, Sire, or to any other, and that a small house that we have acquired in Canterbury (which) is held from you by the service of payment of one penny a year to you, and to us of six shillings, which penny we are willing to pay to you yearly. Now, this inquisition is returned into the

nous vj. soudz, le quel dener nous sumes prest de payer a vous chescun an. Et cele enqueste est retorne en Chancellerie; mes les Gardiens de vostre grant seal ne voillent mettre cele petite meson en vostre chartre qe vous nous avez graunte, sanz especiall commandement de vous; et pur ceo, treschier Seignur, nous vous prioms, pur lamour Saint Thomas, qe vous plese comander au ditz Gardiens de vostre grant seal qe il(s) mettent cele petite mesoun en vostre chartre qe vous nous avez graunte, ovesqe les altres tenementz qe nous avoms purchacie par vostre conge, pur la sustenaunce de les ditz prestres.

(Dec. 1322.)

L. 123 *a*.

93.—Submissio Thomæ ate Reye, præpositi de Chartham.

A defaulting bailiff confesses his offence and submits himself to the Chapter.

Universis, etc. Thomas dictus ate Reye de Chartham salutem. Cum auditores compoti Dominorum Prioris et Conventus Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis nuper calumpniassent me super compotum meum manerii de Chartham, de diversis injuriis, damnis, defectibus, et transgressionibus, prædictis Priori et Conventui factis tempore quo fui in servicio ipsorum, et bonorum suorum receptor in dicto manerio suo de Chartham; ego, volens quærere et habere gratiam et benevolentiam prædictorum Prioris et Conventus, submitto me per præsentes de alto et basso voluntati, ordinationi, et arbitrio dictorum Prioris et Conventus, de omnibus hujusmodi injuriis, dampnis, defectibus, et transgressionibus, per me eisdem factis et illatis tempore supradicto. Et obligo me tenore præsentium ad satisfaciendum eisdem super omnibus præmissis, secundum ordinationem, æstimationem, et taxationem ipsorum. In cujus, etc.

Chancery, but the keepers of your great seal are not willing to mention this little house in your charter (of licence), which you have promised us, without your especial command; and, therefore, our very dear Lord, we pray you, for love of St. Thomas, to command the said keepers of your great seal, that they insert this little house in your charter which you have promised to grant us, along with the other tenements which we have acquired by your licence, for the maintenance of the said priests.

94.—Acquietancia Servientis de compoto reddito. (Dec. 1322.)

L. 123 *b*.

Acquittance given to the defaulting bailiff on his undertaking to pay his arrears.

Universis, etc. Sciatis quod cum Thomas ate Reye, quondam serviens et receptor denariorum et aliorum bonorum Prioris et Conventus Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis in manerio ipsorum de Chartham, coram auditoribus dictorum Prioris et Conventus, ad audiendum compotos ballivorum et servientium suorum deputatis, reddiderit compotum suum, de toto tempore quo fuit in servicio dictorum Prioris et Conventus in manerio suo prædicto; præfati Prior et Conventus prædictum Thomam ab omni compoto, pro tempore prædicto, faciendo et reddendo eisdem de manerio prædicto, quietum fecerunt et absolverunt. Ita tamen quod prædictus Thomas solvat eisdem Priori et Conventui in thesauraria sua apud Cantuariam, in festo Purificationis Beatæ Mariæ, anno regni Regis Edwardi filii Regis Edwardi xvj°, novem libras sterlingorum, quas idem Thomas debet eisdem pro arreragiis ultimi compoti sui de manerio prædicto, omnibus inter ipsos computatis et allocatis, remissis, et relaxatis; ad quam quidem solutionem ix. librarum, sicut prædictum est, prædictus Thomas tenore præsentium obligavit se, et heredes suos, et omnia bona sua

mobilia et immobilia, habita et habenda. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum Domini Henrici tunc Prioris Ecclesiæ Christi prædictæ, et sigillum prædicti Thomæ huic scripto cirographato alternatim sunt appensa. Dat. etc.

(Dec. 1322.)

95.—De provisione Rogeri Dygg.

L. 123 *a*.

The Prior reports to J. de Ros (Rector of Bishopsbourne) that his friend Roger Digge is in a fair way to obtain a benefice. He also tells him that it is not in accordance with custom in Kent to pay mortuaries.

Amantissimo sibi in Christo Magistro J. de Ros, suus Henricus Prior, etc. totaliter id quod sibi. Negotium provisionis Rogeri Digge, familiaris vestri, de quo nobis nuper scripsistis, expeditum est usque ad pupplicationem attestationum super habilitate et ydoneitate dicti Rogeri. Et deponunt concorditer omnes testes quod idem R. habilis est et ydoneus ad beneficium ecclesiasticum, cum cura vel sine, juxta provisionem apostolicam, optinendum. Et super hoc scripsimus Domino Archiepiscopo, supplicantes quod de hoc negotio dicti Rogeri cogitet cum effectu, vel per viam provisionis apostolicæ, seu per viam suæ gratiæ specialis quæ fructuosior sibi existat. Adhuc, sciatis quod non est consuetudo in partibus nostris quod liberi tenentes, licet ipsorum antecessores milites extiterint, teneantur equos et arma ad ecclesiam ubi ipsorum corpora defunctorum sunt sepelienda destinare, nec etiam milites ad hoc tenentur, nisi ex honestate et voluntate, nisi in ipsorum testamento de ipsorum voluntate in hac parte appareat evidenter. Mortuarium vero in multis partibus Angliæ ecclesiis parochialibus debetur, et præcipue ubi dominus temporalis de suis tenentibus habet heriettum; sed in parochia ecclesiæ vestræ de Bourne, nec in capellis spectantibus ad eandem, nunquam heriettum domino nec mortuarium ecclesiæ dari solebat, quicquid vobis dicant vel scribant aliter sentientes.

96. — Excusatio pro congregatione cleri apud Lincolniam anno Domini mcccxxii°. in crastino Sancti Hillarii. 4 Jan. 1323.

L. 123 *b*.

Suo patri devotus filius id quod possit, etc. Quia, variis adversitatibus corporis et aliis causis urgentibus notorie præpeditus, non possum instanti congregationi prælatorum et cleri vestræ provinciæ Cantuariensis in crastino Sancti Hillarii apud Lincolniam personaliter interesse, paternitati vestræ humiliter supplico et devote, quatinus absentiam meam, non captatam nec affectatam, habere dignemini excusatam. Valeat et prospere vigeat Dominus, meus pater et pastor. Data Cantuariæ quarto die Januarii, anno Domini mcccxxiij^do^. The Prior, pleading infirmity, excuses himself to the Archbishop from attending Convocation and Parliament.

97.—Littera supplicatoria pro sequestro faciendo pro debitis defuncti. (Jan. 1323.)

L. 123 *b*.

Suo patri devotus filius, etc. Quia Dominus Willelmus de Setvans miles, nuper defunctus, per letteras suas obligatorias tenebatur Conventui et Ecclesiæ vestræ in xij. marcis sterlingorum, ac executores testamenti ejusdem Willelmi variis modis dissipant et distrahunt bona ipsius defuncti; paternitati vestræ humiliter supplico et devote, quatinus mandare velitis Officiali Archidiaconi Cantuariensis, quod ipse sequestret bona dicti defuncti, in manibus dictorum executorum, usque ad valorem xij. marcarum, quousque dicti executores satisfecerint Conventui de debito supradicto. Beneplacitum vestrum in hiis et aliis mandare velitis fiducialiter michi vestro. Dat. etc. The Prior asks the Archbishop to cause the goods of a deceased debtor of the Convent to be sequestrated for the satisfying of the debt.

98.—Inquisitio de Johanne de Lewes, ballivo. Jan. 1323.

Discretis viris Auditoribus causarum Curiæ venerabilis patris Domini W(alteri), Dei gratia Cantuariensis Archiepiscopi, etc., H(enricus), etc., Prior, etc., L. 123 *b*. The Prior commits a

defaulter to the Court of the Archbishop for trial.

salutem in Eo qui est omnium salus vera. Mittimus vobis inquisitionem, de mandato dicti patris nuper captam coram Officiali Archidiaconi Cantuariensis, super variis injuriis, contemptibus, et transgressionibus, dicto domino nostro Cantuariensi et Ecclesiæ suæ Cantuariensi per Johannem de Lewes illatis. Item mittimus vobis vestrum articulum præsentibus interclusum dicto Johanni objiciendum, super quo diligenter examinetur.

Et si hujusmodi articulum negaverit, subjiciatur inquisitioni, et credimus quod per testes legitimos convincetur. Super præmissis puniatur juxta facti qualitatem, cum restitutione ablatorum; ita quod pœna sua cedat aliis malivolis in terrorem. Valete, etc.

(1 Feb. 1323)

99.—Resignatio domini Warrisii de Valoignes, facta domino Henrico fratri suo, de homagio Johannis de Betleshangr.

L. 124 *a*.

Warreis de Valoignes, having fraudulently received from a tenant the homage of which belonged to his brother, renounces all claim to the homage and service of the tenant.

Omnibus, &c. Cum nuper subrepticie cepèrim homagium et servicium Johannis filii Roberti de Betleshangr, pro terris et tenementis quæ prædictus J. tenet de manerio de Repton, quæ quidem homagium et servicium mero jure pertinent ad Dominum H. de Valoygnes, ratione cujusdem feoffamenti prædicti manerii de Repton, quod dominus Warres' de Valoignes, pater meus, fecit prædicto Domino H., fratri meo, habendi et tenendi sibi et heredibus suis imperpetuum; nolens prædicto Domino H. in aliquo præjudicare, concessi, remisi, et imperpetuum, pro me et heredibus meis, quietum clamavi, prædicto Domino H., heredibus et assignatis suis, totum jus et clamium quod habui, seu quovismodo habere potui vel potuero, in prædictis homagio et servicio hujusmodi surrepticie receptis. Ita videlicet quod ego prædictus W., nec heredes mei, nec aliquis nomine meo, in prædictis homagio et servicio aliquid juris, clamii, proprietatis

possessionis, vel dominii poterimus exigere, clamare, vel vendicare, nec debemus imperpetuum. Concedo insuper quod prædictus J. filius Roberti de cætero sit intendens prædicto Domino H. domino suo, faciendo sibi servicia et consuetudines debita et consueta de prædictis terris et tenementis, quæ tenet vel tenere clamat de prædicto Domino H., de manerio de Repton, imperpetuum, sine aliquo contradictione vel retenemento mei vel heredum meorum imperpetuum.

100.—Quietum clamium domini Warresii de Valoignes facta Johanni filio Roberti de Betleshangr de homagio et servicio. 1 Feb. 1323. L, 124 *a*.

Warreis de Valoignes acquits the tenant of all obligation arising from the oath of homage described in the last letter.

Universis, &c. pateat, quod ego Warresius de Valoignes miles remisi et quietum clamavi imperpetuum Johanni filio Roberti de Betleshangr totum jus, proprietatem, clamium, et dominium quæ habui, vel aliquo modo habere potui vel potuero, in homagio et servicio prædicti Johannis, de terris et tenementis suis in Betleshangr cum pertinentiis suis, quæ idem Johannes tenuit pro homagio et servicio de Domino Warresio patre meo, et quæ ad manerium de Repton pertinent. Concedo insuper, quod prædictus Johannes de cetero se attornet et sit intendens Domino Henrico de Valoignes, fratri meo, ratione dicti manerii; faciendo sibi quamdiu dictum manerium de Repton tenuerit, et aliis quibuscunque qui dictum manerium imposterum tenebunt, homagium et servicium et consuetudines debita et consueta de terris et tenementis prædictis imperpetuum; non obstante homagio quod nuper subrepticie cepi de Johanne prædicto. In cujus &c. Data apud Cantuariam primo die mensis Februarii, anno regni Regis Edwardi filii Regis Edwardi xvj^mo.

31 Jan. 1323.

L. 124 *b*.

101. — Obligatio domini Henrici de Voloynes de warrantia et acquietancia facta Johanni de Betleshangr pro homagio.

Henry de Valoignes, reciting his brother's unlawful act and subsequent amends, confirms the tenant in his possession of the lands in connexion with which his homage was due.

Universis ad quos, &c. Henricus de Valoynes miles, salutem in Domino sempiternam. Licet Dominus Warresius de Valoignes miles, frater meus, nuper subrepticie cepit homagium et servicium Johannis filii Roberti de Betleshangr, pro terris et tenementis quæ prædictus Johannes tenet de manerio de Repton, quæ quidem homagium et servicium mero jure pertinent ad me, ratione cujusdam feoffamenti quod Dominus Warresius de Valoignes, pater meus, michi fecit, &c. (ut supra). Ac dictus dominus Warresius, frater meus, nolens mihi in aliquo præjudicare, concesserit &c. (ut supra). Ego Henricus prædictus, tenore præsentium, concedo, et recognosco me et heredes meos et assignatos, teneri et obligatos esse, pro hujusmodi homagio et servicio receptis, ad warrantizandum prædicto Johanni et heredibus suis et assignatis omnes terras et tenementa prædicta cum pertinentiis suis, et ipsos acquietandum versus omnes gentes imperpetuum.

(Mar. 1323.)

L. 125 *a*.

103. — Petitio pro serviciis etconsuetudinibus terræ Walteri Colpeper nobis faciendis.

The Prior begs the King to allow the Chapter to enjoy the feudal services due from the land which Colpeper held of them before his attainder.

Trescher seignur, pur ceo qe Water Colpeper tint de nous et de nostre Esglise une petite terre partable en Eastfarlegh, fesant a nous par an diverses services et coutumes qe la terre deyt, ore est la terre en vostre main, et les ditz services et coustumes nous sount arere puis la mort le dit Water. Trescher seignur, nous vous prioms, pur lamour de Dieu et de Saint Thomas, qe il vous plese mander a Sire Richard de Pottesgrave, vostre gardien de les dites terres, qe il nous face aver les services et les coustumes qe la dite terre nous deyt par an.

In cujus &c. Data Cantuariæ ultimo die mensis Januarii anno regni Regis Edwardi filii Regis Edwardi sextodecimo.

102.—Item littera missa Magistro J. de Bruyton pro ecclesia de Boseham. 7 Feb. 1323.

L. 125 *a*.

The Prior suggests that the Bishops of Chichester and Exeter should personally talk over their case concerning the church of Bosham.

Suo suus salutem quam sibi. Lites et dissensiones inter venerabiles patres Dominos J. Cicestrensem et W. Exoniensem Episcopos suscitatæ in perniciosum cedunt exemplum subditorum suorum, aliis etiam quibusdam prælatis et personis ecclesiasticis poterunt forsitan hujusmodi contentiones præjudicare, nisi occurrat mediator ille prudens cui venti obediunt atque mare. Expedit igitur quod excitetis venerabilem patrem dominum nostrum Cantuariensem ut indemnitati suæ et Ecclesiæ Cantuariensis prospiciat in hac parte, modis omnibus quibus viderit expedire. Tract(atus) enim amicabilis inter dictos duos Episcopos de aliqua via pacis multa pericula imminentia poterit præcavere. Valete, &c. Data Cantuariæ septimo die Februarii, anno Dni. MCCCXXIJ^{do}.

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103. Our very dear Lord. Whereas Walter Colepeper held from us and from our Church a small separable estate in East Farleigh, paying to us the various yearly services and customs due from the estate, and now the land is in your hand, and the said services and customs are unpaid since his death; we therefore pray you, our very dear Lord, for the love of God and of Saint Thomas, that you will please to direct Sir Richard de Pottesgrave, your guardian of the said lands, that he shall cause the yearly services and customs which are due from the land, to be paid to us.

7 Feb. 1323.

L. 124 *b*.

104.—Littera Capituli missa Domino Archiepiscopo pro Domino J. Cicestrensi Episcopo de ecclesia de Boseham.

The Bishops of Chichester and Exeter, having a dispute about jurisdiction in the Church of Bosham, in the patronage of the latter, the Archbishop is asked by the Prior to intimate to the Bishop of Exeter that his assumption of jurisdiction in the diocese of Chichester would be prejudicial to the provincial authority of the See of Canterbury.

Reverendo in Christo patri Domino W(altero) Dei gratia, etc., devoti filii H(enricus) Prior et Capitulum Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, salutem cum omni obedientia, reverentia, et honore, debitis tanto patri. Devotis petentium desideriis quæ tramitem rationis concernunt solet clementer annuere dignitas pastoralis, et præcipue quum res sua agitur magis affici consuevit. Cum igitur, ut audivimus, inter venerabiles patres Dominos J. Cicestrensem et W. Exoniensem Episcopos lites quæ caritati derogant, et dissentiones quæ pacis unitatem dirimunt, sint exortæ, super jurisdictione ordinaria dicti Domini Episcopi Cicestrensis in ecclesia collegiata de Boseham, Cicestrensis diœcesis, quæ parochialis existit, ut dicitur, exercenda; quæ jurisdictioni vestræ et Ecclesiæ vestræ Cantuariensis provinciali et metropoliticæ maximum præjudicium posset afferre, si jurisdictio ordinaria dicti Domini Episcopi Cicestrensis in aliquo mutilaretur; paternitatem vestram requirimus et rogamus, quatinus dictum Dominum Episcopum Cicestrensem et Capitulum suum, per vestras litteras, excitare, et aliis modis quibus expedire videritis sollicitare velitis, quod jura ordinaria et alia jura et libertates dictæ Ecclesiæ Cicestrensis tueri studeant et fovere et illibata servare, prout astringuntur et tenentur juxta canonicas sanctiones; vestrisque insuper Officiali, Commissario, et Auditoribus causarum Curiæ vestræ et consistorii vestri de Arcubus Londoniensis placeat vobis firmiter injungere, quod dicto domino Episcopo et Capitulo suo super præmissis favorabiles extistant, et ea quæ juris sunt, tanquam justitiæ debitores, eisdem concedant. Præfatum vero Dominum Exoniensem Episcopum decet et expedit persuasionibus canonicis allicere et inducere cum

effectu, ne in præjudicium jurisdictionis, jurium, seu libertatis vestrarum et Ecclesiæ vestræ Cantuariensis, ad quæ defendenda, retinenda, et conservanda, profitendo, jurumento corporali solempniter præstito, se astrinxit, nichil attemptet vel attemptari faciat seu procuret. Et ex abundanti expedit, ut videtur, in eventum contrarium provocationem facere loco et tempore opportunis. Valeat et vigeat vestra sancta paternitas ad regimen Ecclesiæ suæ sanctæ. Data in Capitulo nostro septimo die Februarii, anno Domini, MCCCXXIJ^do.

105.—[De negotio Johannis de Lewes.] 8 Feb. 1323.

L. 125 *a*.

Letter from the Prior to an official of the Archbishop's court concerning the case of J. de Lewes. A substantial compliment accompanied the letter.

Salutem quam sibi. Mittimus vobis inquisitionem, de mandato Domini nostri Cantuariensis nuper captam per Officialem Archidiaconi Cantuariensis, de transgressionibus et injuriis dicto patri et Ecclesiæ suæ Cantuariensi illatis et negatis per Johannem Lewes. Item mittimus vobis unum articulum novum dicto Johanni objiciendum, quæ omnia Auditoribus causarum Curiæ dicti Domini nostri Cantuariensis, proximo die juridico post festum Sci. Valentini, tradatis; scientes quod vobis referimus grates multas pro circumspecta diligentia vestra apposita et apponenda, pro hujusmodi transgressionibus dampnis et injuribus, dicto Patri et Ecclesiæ nostræ Cantuariensi notorie illatis, merito puniendis. Valete sicut valere vellemus. Quid autem dicto die actum fuerit super præmissis nobis, cum commode potueritis, rescribatur. Data Cantuariæ viij° die Februarii, anno Dni. MCCCXXIJ^do. Mittimus vobis decalogum sterlingorum pro novis botulis emendis.

16 Mar. 1323.

L. 138 *a*.

106.—Littera Capituli directa Dominc H(ugoni) Despenser Comiti Wyntoniæ, pro fratribus Sci. Augustini.

The White Friars (Augustinians) having purchased a tenement in St. George's parish in Canterbury, have asked their patron to procure a licence(empowering them to enter),from the Chapter of Christ Church, the owners of the fee. For reasons given this request is refused.

A noble seignur et lur trescher et bien ame en Dieu, Sire Hugh le Despenser Counte de Wincestre, Henri Priour et le Covent del Esglise de Canterbirs, saluz et la joye perdurable. Sire, endroit de ceo qe vous nous mandastes nadgeres par vos lettres, qe une place qe les freres de Saint Augstin ount purchace en la ville de Canterbirs, la quele est tenue de nous, lur voilloms suffrir de entrer et illoeqes habiter, rendant a nous les services dues ; sachez, Sire, qe nous feroms pur les dits freres ceo qe nous purroms bonement faire sanz desheritance de nostre dite Esglise. Et, Sire, vous plese entendre qe nous avoms lavoeson de une esglise parochiele en la ville de Canterbire, et une aunuele enpension de meisme lesglise par an, et la place qe les ditz freres de Saint Augstin se assertent de purchacer deinz la paroche de la dite esglise est tenue de nostre esglise par certein service, et lesglise est si povere qe si les tenements qe sount en la paroche deveinssent a morte main de religion la persone de cele Esglise ne averoit dount vivere, ne poer de rendre a nous lenpension, et faudreit la chanterie de cele esglise tout temps apres, et nostre Esglise de Canterbirs serroit disherite del avoeson et del enpension de cele esglise pur toutz jours. Et, Sire, nous entendoms certeignement qe il ne plerroit mie a vous qe nostre dite Esglise de Canterbire fuist disherite par procurement des ditz freres de Saint Augstin ; et pur ceo nous vous prioms qe vous nous eyez escusez endroit de cestes choses. A Dieu, qi vous gard et quant qe vous apent. Donez en nostre Chapitle, le xvj^{me}, jour de Marz, lan de grace M^{o}CCC^{o}XXIIJ^{o}.

106.

To the noble Lord and their very dear and well-beloved in God Sir Hugh le Despenser Earl of Winchester, Henry Prior, and the Convent of the Church of Canterbury, greeting and eternal joy. My Lord, concerning those things of which you have lately informed us by your letters, (namely) that there is a site which the Austin Friars have acquired in Canterbury, which is held under us, and that we should allow them to enter upon it and there dwell, paying to us the accustomed services; be assured, my Lord, that we will do for the said Friars all that we can well do without injustice to our said Church. Now, my Lord, please to understand that we own the advowson of a parish church in the City of Canterbury, with an annual pension coming to us yearly from the same, and the site which the said Friars assert that they have acquired within the parish of the said church is held from our Church by payment of a certain service, and the parish church is so poor that if the tenements in the parish should fall to the *dead hand of religion*, the parson of this church would not have wherewithal to live upon, nor ability to pay to us our pension, and the chantry in the said church would fail for ever after, and ou Church of Canterbury would be despoiled of the advowson and the pension of this church for ever. And, my Lord, we understand assuredly, that it would not please you at all that our said Church of Canterbury should be despoiled by the action of the said Austin Friars, and therefore we pray you to hold us excused in these things. God be with you, who keep you and all belonging to you. Given in our Chapter House, the 16th day of March, in the year of grace 1323.

(April 1323.)

L. 125 *b*.

106*a*.—La peticion le Priour et le Covent de Canterbirs pur la meson Walter de Greneweye, et de iiij. *s*. de rente de Johan fitz Johan de Hardres.

The Chapter beg the King to grant a licence in mortmain permitting them to acquire a certain house and a small rent.

Ceo monstrent a leur trescher Seignur le Roi ses chapeleins le Priour et le Covent del Esglise de Canterbirs, qe leschetour ad trove, par deux enquestes qe il ad pris par comandement nostre Seignur le Roi, qe nest pas a damage ne en prejudice nostre Seignur le Roi, ne a nul autre, si nostre seignur le Roi grante a Bertram de Twytham qe il une meson, et a Johan fitz Johan de Hardres qe il quatre soudes de rente en Canterbire, puissent doner et assigner al dit Priour et Covent, en aide de la sustenance de sys prestes, qi toutz jours chantront pur nostre dit Seignur le Roi et ses auncestres et ses heirs et totes almes chretiens, en la novele chapele qe est faite en le noun de Nostre Dame et de Saint Thomas pres de la porte de la priourte en Canterbire. Et celes enquestes sount retornez en Chancellerie, et par ceo qe la dite meson et les quatre soudes de rente sount tenuz de nostre seignur le Roi en chef, par troys deners de rent pur totes maneres services par an, le Chanceller ne veut faire chartre de les dites choses saunz especial comaundement nostre Seignur le Roi. Et par ceo prient a nostre Seignur le Roi ses ditz chapeleins, qe, pur lamour de Dieu et Nostre Dame et Seint Thomas, luy plese granter a eux sa chartre de les dites mesons[1] et de cel rente de quatre southz, nyent resteant qe cele meson et la rent soiente tenutz de luy en chef par la dite rente de troys deners, et sur ceo mander a Chanceller sa grace et sa volonte.

[1] sic in MS.

106*a*.—The petition of the Prior and Convent of Canterbury for the house of Walter de Greneweye; and concerning four shillings of rent from John son of John of Hardres.

Hereby it is shewn to their very dear Lord the King by his chaplains the Prior and the Convent of the Church of Canterbury, that the Escheator has found, by two inquisitions which he has held by command of our Lord the King, that there will be neither damage nor prejudice to our Lord the King, nor to any one else, if our Lord the King grant to Bertram de Twytham, and to John the son of John of Hardres, that the former may give and assign a house to the said Prior and Convent, and the latter a rent of four shillings in Canterbury, to help in the maintenance of six priests, who will for ever sing mass, for our said Lord the King, and his ancestors, and his heirs, and for all Christian souls, in the new chapel dedicated in the name of Our Lady and of Saint Thomas, near the Priory gate in Canterbury. Now, these inquisitions are returned into the Chancery, and (because the said house and the rent of four shillings are held of our Lord the King in chief by the payment of three pence of rent yearly for all manner of services) the Chancellor is unwilling to draw up the charter including the said properties without especial commandment from our Lord the King. Therefore, our Lord the King is prayed by his said chaplains, for the love of God, and of our Lady, and of Saint Thomas, that it will please him to grant them his licence for the said houses and rent of four shillings (notwithstanding that this house and the rent are held of him in chief by the said rent of three pence) and thereupon send word to the Chancellor, of his grace and will.

26 April 1323.

107.—De Manerio de Wykham emendo.

L. 125 *a*.

The Earl of Arundel has offered 2,000*l*. to W. de Brewous for the reversion of his manor of Wykham and he, to enhance the price, having asked the Prior to outbid the Earl, is told that in so great a matter time must be taken for consideration.

A son trescher et bien ame en Dieu Monsire William de Brewous, Henri Priour del Esglise de Canterbirs, saluz, et la saunte perdurable. Endroit de ceo qe vous nous mandastes nadgeres par voz lettres, qe le Counte de Arondel vous ad toche par ses lettres de tenir bargain ove vous de vostre manoir de Wykham apres vostre deces, et vous ad tendu ij^{M} *li.* pour la reversion, et vous tenir le dit manoir a terme de vostre vie, et vodrez savoir combien nous vous durroms pur le dit manoir avoir, avant qe vous soyez en certein a nul autre; sachez, Sire, qe nous ne pooms issi tost estre avise finalment de si grants busoignes sanz nostre conseil; mes en la feste de la Trinite nous entendoms faire vous assaver pluis pleynement nostre avisement de les ditz busoignes. Et nous vous mercioms moult et cherment de la bone volonte qe vous avez vers nous et nostre dite Esglise, en cestes choses et en autres. Donez a Canterbirs le xxvj. jour Daveril lan de grace MCCCXXIIJ.

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13 May 1323.

108.—Ordinatio facta ad Scaccarium[1] de manerio de Wykham.[2]

L. 125 *b*.

The Chapter offer W. de Brewous 2,000 marks for the reversion of his manor of Wickham.

Memorandum quod iij. Idus Maii anno Domini MCCCXXIIJ. coram Priore, Suppriore, et majore parte Capituli, ordinatum fuit et concordatum, quod fratres W. de Coventre et W. de Ledebure mittentur ad Dominum W. de Brewous, ad offerendum sibi ex parte Capituli M^{l}M^{l} marcas sterlingorum pro manerio suo de Wykham, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis, et cum

[1] The *Cheker* or Audit room of the Monastery and not the King's Exchequer is here meant.

[2] *Wickham Breux* interlined in a more modern hand.

107.

To his very dear and well-beloved in God Sir William de Brewous, Henry Prior of the Church of Canterbury, greeting, and enduring health. Concerning what you informed us lately by your letters, that the Earl of Arundel has proposed to you by his letters to keep his bargain with you for your manor of Wykham after your death, and has offered two thousand pounds for the reversion, whilst you are to keep the said manor for the term of your life; and you would wish to know how much we will give you for possession of the said manor before you close with anyone else; know then, Sir, that we cannot so hastily be finally determined in so great an affair without advice of counsel; but by the feast of Trinity we propose to inform you more fully in the said matters. And we thank you much and heartily for the good will which you bear towards us and our Church, in this as in other affairs. Given at Canterbury the 26th day of April 1323.

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advocatione ecclesiæ de Wykham; solvendas eidem Domino W. in forma subscripta, videlicet, quod, optenta licentia a Domino Rege dictum manerium perquirendi, et habito super hoc consensu Episcopi et Capituli Ecclesiæ Lincolniensis de quibus dictum manerium immediate tenetur in capite, et facta bona et sufficienti securitate dictis Priori et Conventui de dicto manerio post mortem dicti Domini W. pacifice habendo et retinendo imperpetuum, quod extunc dicti Prior et Capitulum solvent prædicto domino W. prædictas $M^{l}M^{l}$ marcas infra tres vel quatuor annos proxime sequentes, videlicet, ad duos terminos cujuslibet anni per æquales portiones.

15 May 1323.

109.—Littera credenciæ Domino W. de Brewous de manerio de Wykeham.

L. 125 *b*.

The Chapter introduce two of their monks to W. de Brewouse, who are empowered to offer him a price for his manor.

A lur trescher et bien ame en Dieu Monsier William de Brewouse seignur de Over et de Brember, Henri Priour et le Covent del Esglise de Canterbirs, salutz, et cheres amistees. Sire, nous vous mercioms moult de la bone volonte et de les grantz bountes qe vous avez sovent monstre et fait a nous et a nostre dite Esglise de Canterbirs; et endroit de ceo qe vous nous mandastes nadgeres par voz lettres, de vous certifier combien nous durrioms a vous pur vostre manoir de Wykham, ove les apurtenances, et ove lavoeson del esglise de meisme le leu, nous enveyoms a vous noz chers freres en Dieu William de Coventre et William de Ledebure, portours de cestes lettres, a queux voillez donier favorable audience et certeigne credence en ceo qe il vous monstreront et dirront pur nous sur les dites busoignes a ceste foith, et par eaux remander a nous vostre volonte sur meisme les busoignes. Donez en nostre Chapitle le xv^{m} jour de May, lan de grace mcccxxiij^{m}.

(May 1323.)

110.—Credencia dicenda Domino W. de Brewous pro eodem.

L. 126 *a*.

The form of words to be used by the messengers deputed to offer W. de Brewouse 2000 marks for his manor.

Messire, le Priour et le Covent de Canterbirs vous saluent moult, come lur cher ami, et vous mercient moult de la bone volonte et de les grantz bountes qe vous avez sovent monstre a eaux e a lour Esglise. Et endroit de ceo qe vous lour mandastes nadgeres par vos lettres de vons certifier combien il vous durroient pur vostre manoir de Wykham, ove lavoeson del esglise; Sire, il vous mandent par nous, qe pur vostre dit manoir de Wykham ove lavoeson del esglise aver en fee, et vous tenir le manoir a terme de vie, il vous durront M^{l} M^{l} mars. Et quant ils averont conge

109.

To their very dear and well-beloved in God Sir William de Brewouse Lord of Over and of Bramber, Henry the Prior and the Convent of the Church of Canterbury greeting, and hearty friendship. Sir, we thank you greatly for the good will, and for the great bounties which you have often shown and bestowed upon us and our said Church of Canterbury; and with regard to what you have lately sent to us in your letters, that, namely, we should certify you how much we would give you for your manor of Wykham with its appurtenances, and with the advowson of the parish church, we send to you our dear brethren-in-God, William de Coventry and William de Ledbury, bearers of these letters, to whom be pleased to give a favourable hearing, and undoubting belief in what they shall testify and say for us in connexion with the said matters at the present time, and by them be pleased to send us your wishes in the same matters. Given in our Chapter House the 15th day of May, in the year of grace 1323.

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nostre Seignur le Roi, par aide de vous et de autres amis, qe il puissent purchacer cel manoir en fee, et assentement del Evesque de Nichol et de son Chapitle, des queux le dit manoir est tenu en chef, et bone et suffisante seaurte soit ordine et faite au Priour et Covent qe il puissent apres vostre temps aver et tenir peisiblement le dit manoir en fee, il vous payeront les M[l] M[l] mars, en quatre ans proscheinement avenir, cest assaver a deaux termes chescun an par owele porcion.[1]

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[1] The Latin form 108 furnishes a sufficiently close of the French of this letter.

20 May 1323.

L. 126 *a*.

111.—Littera directa Magistro J. de Ros de provisione Rogeri Diggs et aliis negotiis.

The Prior sends a letter of news to J. de Ros, the patron of Roger Dygg, the poor clerk whom the Pope recommended for a benefice.

Suo suus totaliter semetipsum. Negotium provisionis Rogeri Dygg est in omnibus expeditum quantum ad nos et co-executores nostros pertinet, et processum nostrum in hac parte decretum et reservationem commisimus certis personis Domino Archiepiscopo notificanda; nec superest aliquid quod sciamus nisi opportunitas temporis beneficii vacaturi quod procurator dicti Rogeri duxerit acceptandum. Adhuc, quia dicitur quod Dominus Archiepiscopus Armachanus, Primas totius Hiberniæ, resignavit in manibus Domini Papæ curam dicti archiepiscopatus, retinens sibi honorem pontificalem sine titulo seu cura, ita quod possit episcopale

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(May 1323.)

L. 126 *a*.

112.—Littera missa Dominæ Agneti de Courtenay.

The Prior thanks the Lady Agnes de Courtenay for a valuable ring which she has sent to him.

A sa treschere dame et bien ame en Dieu Dame Agneis de Courtenay, Henri Priour del Esglise de Canterbirs, saluz, et la sante perdurable. Dame, jeo vous mercie moult del precious anel qe vous me envoyastes nadgeres, et voz lettres par N. vostre fitz. Et sachez, dame, qe tant come la vie (de) ceste siecle me demorra le dit anel, pur lamour de vous, de moy ne esloignera; et par ceo qe jai bien sentu qe vos saintes prieres me ont sovent (aide) avant ces houres en moult de cas qe me sont avenuz, jeo vous pri et requere qe vous voillez voz dites saintes prieres continuer pur moy sicome jeo faz et suy tenuz de (faire) pur vous, et pur toutz le voz qe vous touchent. Donez, &c.

officium exercere, rogamus vos quod quid actum est in præmissis nos certificare velitis per proximum ad partes nostras venturum. De episcopatu Wyntoniensi vacante[1] multi multa loquuntur. Dominus Landavensis Episcopus[2] diem suum clausit extremum. Inter Dominum Regem Angliæ et Scotos sunt tractatus, et creditur quod in aliquam viam pacis concordabunt, vel saltem in lôngas treugas. Tempus habemus tranquillum in Anglia sine rapina et prisis consuetis. Et quia balsamo maxime indigemus pro ordinibus et aliis sacramentis in ecclesia nostra celebrandis, rogamus vos et corditer deprecamûs quod, sumptibus nostris, velitis nobis mittere, in vase solido, balsamum, sub sigillo vestro, per aliquem vobis notum. Valeat, &c. Data Cantuariæ crastino Sancti Dunstani, anno Dni. MCCCXXIIJ^{io}.

112.

To his very dear Lady and well-beloved in God the Lady Agneis de Courtenay, Henry Prior of the Church of Canterbury, greeting, and enduring health. My Lady, I thank you heartily for the precious ring which you lately sent me with your letters by N. your son. And be assured, Lady, that as long as this earthly life endures for me, the said ring, for love of you, shall not part from me; and, because I have clearly felt that your blessed prayers have often helped me in past times on many occasions which have befallen me, I beg and require you to continue the said prayers for me, as I also do, and am bound to do for you, and for all in whom you are concerned.

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[1] By the death of Rigaud de Asserio.

[2] John de Monmouth.

10 Aug. (1323).

113.—Excusatio pro scandalo imposito.

L. 136 *a*.

A friar has excited hatred against the Prior by inflammatory preaching to his tenants in Sandwich Marsh. The Prior informs the Archbishop (?), and, though feigning to forgive the friar, asks the Archbishop to do what he would wish should be done if the case were his own.

Salutem. Hostis antiquus, sedens in insidiis et quærens quem devoret, multos excitat et inducit ut quibus non licet quemquam manibus occidere sagittent innocentes bugiis[1] acutis. Hac siquidem die Dominica proxime præterita, Frater Salamo de Ripple, præsente multitudine populari, in marisco juxta Sandwyco, grave scandalum nobis imposuit sine culpa, et contra religionis honestatem dissolvit vinculum caritatis fraternæ; coram multis de vestris et nostris ac aliis, publice pronuntians fabulam talem famosam: "Ecce modo manifeste patet qualiter Prior Ecclesiæ "Christi Cantuariensis utilitatem et commodum totius "communitatis patriæ hactenus impedivit, et adhuc "impedit in præsenti, et ideo sibi et non alteri debent "dampna vestra et nostra totaliter imputari." Super præmissis vero invocamus Deum, testem veracem, quod nunquam talia noster peperit cogitatus, et hoc idem vos velle veraciter credimus contestari. Sed igitur eloquium dicti fratris equanimiter tolerabimus donec ipsius pertranseat fumosa caligo. Consideratis igitur considerandis, id quod vobis fieri volueritis, alteri faciatis. Valete, etc. Scriptum Cantuariæ die Sancti Laurentii sub sigillo nostro privato.

25 Sept. 1323.

114.—De decimis quas petunt rectores decanatus de Bockyng.

L. 137 *a*.

The Chapter complain to the Archbishop concerning a demand made upon their tenants at

Venerabili in Christo patri Domino W(altero) Dei gratia, etc., devoti filii H(enricus) Prior et Capitulum Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, salutem cum omni obedientia et honore. Pro negotiis nos et quosdam rectores ecclesiarum in decanatu de Bockyng, vestræ jurisdictionis immediatæ, tangentibus, quæ ad vestram cognitionem fecistis specialiter revocari, vobis uberes

[1] *Bugia* (Ital.) = a lie.

gratiarum referimus actiones debitas et devotas, scituri pater reverende, quod in proximo adventu vestro ad ecclesiam vestram Cantuariensem, vel ad loca vicina, conscienciam vestram sufficienter credimus informare super præmissis. Non enim cuiquam vertitur in dubium, quinimmo creditur esse certius omni certo, quod sancti patres, prædecessores vestri Ecclesiæ Cantuariensis pontifices et pastores, modum decimandi abolim consuetum in maneriis nostris in dicto decanatu tanto tempore minime tolerassent, si usum solitum decimationis hujusmodi erroneum reputassent. Licet enim privilegia, consuetudines præscriptæ, et compositiones antiquæ reales pariter et supra jus commune esse videantur, tamen contra jura communia non existunt nec canonicis obviant institutis. Valeat, etc. Data in capitulo nostro, xxv^to^ die Septembris anno Domini M°CCC^mo^XXIIJ°.

Booking for the payment of small tithes.

115.—De visitatione et aliis articulis.

29 Sept. (1323).

L. 137 *a*.

Suo patri devotus filius id quod potest obedientiæ, reverentiæ, et honoris. Pro hiis quæ pridie per litterarum vestrarum seriem mihi notificastis, grates vobis refero quantas possum, quia non sufficio quas teneor pro condigno. Sane mandatis Apostolicis vobis directis oportet, cæteris prætermissis, parere; verum quia modum et mores Domini nostri Regis pro tempore non modico bene novistis, expedit vobis injuncta sibi cautius explicare, et super sibi exponendis ipsum secretius præmunire. Adhuc, pater ea quæ in Ecclesia vestra Cantuariensi reformanda sunt hiis diebus, absque strepitu judiciali publicæ visitationis, poterunt, ut creditur, via breviori facilius et utilius expediri; dum tamen insolentes, juxta regulares observantias, corrigantur, solito et secreto favore sublato qui multos facit sacræ religionis semitas exhorbitare. Status vero mei qualitas corporalis prospere viget et incolumis

The Prior advises the Archbishop to be discreet in announcing certain Apostolic mandates to the King. He recommends that faults detected in the visitation shall be reformed without public scandal; and declares that, considering

his age, he is in good health.

quatenus permittunt incommoda senectutis. Ceterum in pleno capitulo, ob hoc specialiter congregato, vos, iter, et actus vestros devotis fratrum spiritualibus obsequiis recommendavi. Valeat et vigeat vestra paternitas sancta in Christo, qui vos in prosperis dirigat et protegat in adversis. Data Cantuariæ die Sancti Michælis.

Oct. (1323). L. 137 *a*.

116.—Dè omnibus arreragiis pensionis Magistri A. de Brugg.

Receipt for his salary or pension

Universis pateat per præsentes quod ego Magister Andreas de Brugg Canonicus Sci. Pauli Londoniarum,

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(1323.) L. 138 *a*.

117.—Excusatio pro blado vendendo Constabulario Dovoriæ.

The Prior, pleading that he himself must be a buyer, declines to sell wheat and barley to the Constable of Dover Castle.

A son trescher et bien ame en Dieu Monsire Johan Pecche, Conestable de Dovor, Henri Priour del Esglise de Canterbirs, saluz et la sante perdurable. Endroit de ceo qe vous nous priastes nadgeres par voz lettres, de vous prester xx. quartiers de furment et ytant de orge en nostre manoir de Eastry ou de Westclyve, a payer les deners a la feste de la Nativitie Saint Johan proschein avenir ; sachez, Sire, qe la moyte de noz terres sount si loynz de nous, hors de cest counte devers Oxenford, Devenesir, et aillours, pur quey il nous covent vendre blez en celes parties et achater blez en ceo pays. Et sachez, Sire, qe toutz les blez qe nous avoms, outre le semail de noz terres, entre Sandwyz et Roucestre, ne suffisant mie a la sustenance de nostre Covent et de nostre meson, tant qe a la Pentecost, pur quey il nous covent achater mil quartres de blez et plus, chescun an en ceo pays. A Dieu, qi vous gard et quant qe a vous apent.

recepi et habui a religiosis viris Priore et Conventu Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis x. libras x. solidos sterlingorum, pro omnibus arreragiis pensionis meæ in quibus mihi tenebantur, videlicet pro anno regni Regis Edwardi filii Regis Edwardi xiiij°, xv°, et xvj° et pro termino Omnium Sanctorum anno ejusdem regis xvij°. De qua quidem pensione, tam pro eodem tempore quam pro omnibus terminis præcedentibus, fateor me esse bene pacatum, et mihi plenarie satisfactum. In cujus rei, etc. Dat., etc.

given by one of the Counsel of Convent.

117.

To his very dear and well-beloved in God Sir John Pecche, Constable of Dovor, Henry Prior of the Church of Canterbury greeting, and enduring health. Respecting that which you requested of us lately in your letters, (namely) that we should advance you twenty quarters of wheat, and as many of barley in our manor of Eastry, or in that of Westcliff, the money to be paid at Midsummer next; know, Sir, that one half of our estates lie so far away from us outside of this county in the direction of Oxford(shire), and Devonshire, and elsewhere, that hence it behoves us to sell our own corn in those parts, and to purchase other in this district. And know, Sir, that all the corn that we possess (beyond the seed corn for our lands), between Sandwich and Rochester, does not by any means suffice for the maintenance of our Convent, and our household beyond Whitsuntide, and therefore we are obliged to buy a thousand quarters of corn and even more, every year, in this district. I commend you to God, who keep you and whatever belongs to you.

(1323.) 118.—Littera consultatoria de prioratu de Selebourne Wyntoniensis diœcesis, prioratu vacante.

L. 136 *b*.

The Archbishop has consulted the experienced Prior about his jurisdiction in the Priory of Selborne, the See of Winchester and the office of Prior in the Convent being simultaneously vacant. This letter contains the cautious advice given by the Prior of Canterbury.

Suo patri, etc. Super negotiis prioratum de Selebourne Wyntoniensis diœcesis jam vacantem contingentibus, quæ mihi per vestras litteras nuper mandastis, ea quæ sentio vobis scribo. Licet celebris memoriæ Lanfrancus quondam Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus de bonis Ecclesiæ Cantuariensis, et non de patrimonialibus suis, Ecclesiam Roffensem fundaverit, et, ea occasione, successores sui, Cantuarienses Archiepiscopi, custodiam temporalium Roffensis Ecclesiæ habuerunt et habent sede Roffensi vacante, tamen sedibus Cantuariensi et Roffensi simul tempore vacantibus Dominus Rex custodiam temporalium utriusque Ecclesiæ habere dignoscitur, sicut scitis, non obstante fundatione Archiepiscopi supradicti. Verumptamen, si per cartas et alia munimenta sufficientia bonæ memoriæ Petri de Roches quondam Episcopi Wyntoniensis, qui dictum prioratum de suis patrimonialibus primo fundavit, appareat evidenter quod custodia dicti prioratus, eodem prioratu vacante, ad Wyntoniensem Episcopum, qui pro tempore fuerit sede plena, et ad Ecclesiam vestram Cantuariensem sede Wyntoniensi vacante, pertinere debeat, et hactenus pertinere solebat; ita quod Dominus Rex nec progenitores sui tempore vacationis sedis Wyntoniensis, nec etiam ipsa sede plena, de custodia dicti prioratus de Seleborne, vacante prioratu, hactenus se intromittere nullatenus consueverint, verisimile videtur, quod custodia dicti prioratus ad præsens vacantis ad vos debet spectare, juxta voluntatem et ordinationem primi fundatoris prioratus prædicti, ratione vacationis sedis Wyntoniensis, quodque Conventis ejusdem loci petere debent a vobis licentiam eligendi, si liberam habeant electionem Prioris. Et si Dominus Rex ad instantiam quorumcunque ad custo-

diam dicti prioratus manus apposuit ista vice, non expedit ministros regales aliqualiter impedire, set per viam supplicationis restitutionem et reformationem petere status vestri et Ecclesiæ vestræ Cantuariensis. Potestis tamen, ut videtur, aliquem de vestris ad dictum prioratum mittere, sub aliquo alio colore, ibidem per dies aliquos moraturum, pro jure Wyntoniensis Ecclesiæ et vestro salvando. Si vero monachi dicti prioratus, forsitan circumventi seu dolose procedentes, a Domino Rege impetraverunt licentiam eligendi, et sic licentiati processerunt ad electionem Prioris, non oportet hujusmodi electionem surreptitiam acceptare, sed dissimulando supersedere, donec a Domino Rege super hoc, ut præmittitur, supplicando receperitis votivum responsum.

119.—[Littera Domino Archiepiscopo directa. (1323.)

Salutem. Cum nuper ribaldus ille, qui ad vos missus fuit apud Otteford cum ampullis pro oleo et crismate querendis, domum rediret, statim imputatum fuit et impropriatum sibi ipsi, quod, pro negligentia sua et reproba conditione sui status, vacuis manibus rediit de curia vestra. Et revera de aditu suo apud Otteford nichil scimus, nisi ipso reverso; nec ambitum monasterii introibit, donec gratiam et benevolentiam vestram et vestrorum poterit promereri. L. 138 *a*. The Prior informs the Archbishop that a messenger sent to bring chrism got drunk on the road and lost his bottles.

120.—Littera directa Universitati Oxoniensi pro subventione eidem per Capitulum concessa. 23 April 1324.

L. 138 *b*.

Præclari nominis et meriti viro, Domino . . . . Cancellario Universitatis Oxoniensis, cœtuique ejusdem Magistrorum, Hen(ricus) providentia divina Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, salutem in illam quæ sola post partum virgo permansit. Recepta nuper

vestrarum pagina litterarum, de modica subventione vobis facienda, per nos et Capitulum nostrum alias ordinata, mentionem fecit expressam; et quod, licet ordinassemus quod per manus Fratris Willelmi de Ledebury, commonachi nostri, cum ad maneria nostra juxta Oxoniam, pro aliis negotiis nostris expediendis, contigeret declinare, vobis fieret subsidium aliquale, tamen hujusmodi ordinatio Capituli nullum attulit vobis fructum, eo quod executio[1] minime demandabatur, prout in dictis litteris vestris plenius continetur. Ut igitur veritas præmissorum vobis plenius elucescat, vobis scribimus seriem rei gestæ, quia factum peritissimos judices latet quandoque. Recepta siquidem primitiva littera vestra nobis directa, petitioni vestræ, quæ a rationis tramite minime deviavit, benigne duximus annuendum, et ordinationem Capituli in hac parte, per dictum Fratrem Willelmum, demandavimus effectualiter exequendam in forma subscripta: quod, cum idem Willelmus ad maneria nostra prædicta juxta Oxoniam citius veniret, procuratori vestro cuicumque, ad ipsum quibuscunque diebus vel locis in partibus illis accedenti, subventionem concessam liberaret. Et quia nullus ex parte vestra, tempore quo in partibus illis degebat, ad ipsum accessit, et (quia) ardua negotia Ecclesiæ nostræ, sibi commissa et alibi expedienda, prætermittere non potuit sine dampno, infecto negotio vos contingente de partibus illis recessit. Habeat igitur circumspecta discretio vestra excusabiles in hac parte rationabiliter excusatos. Nos vero, aliorum negligentiam supplere volentes, subventionem alias vobis concessam procuratori vestro fecimus liberari. Valeat et vigeat sancta congregatio vestra in Christo per suæ matris et Beati Thomæ merita gloriosa. Data Cantuariæ, xxiij°. die Aprilis anno Dnomii MCCCXXIIIJ^to^.

[1] *executionem* MS.

121.–De negotiis ecclesiæ ordinandis Priore infirmo vel absente.

(1324.)
L. 136 *a*.

Prior Eastry, more than seventy years old, asks the Archbishop to allow the Supprior to take his place, should he be disabled by sickness or be compelled to be absent.

Suo patri, etc. Quia adversa valitudine corporis aliquotiens prægravatus, quominus possum negotiis communibus Ecclesiæ continue vacare, placeat vobis Fratri H., Suppriori, mandare, quatinus, me absente vel alias casualiter præpedito, negotiis communibus Conventus interim diligenter intendat, et ea, de fratrum consilio, ordinet et disponat, cui competit ex officio in tali casu mea onera supportare.

122.–De officio Sacrist(ariæ).

21 May (1324).
L. 136 *a*.

Following the ancient custom of the Church, the Chapter nominate to the Archbishop three monks from whom he may choose one to fill the office of Sacrist.

Suo patri devotus filius obedientiam, reverentiam, et honorem. Habito nuper tractatu cum senioribus et sanioribus fratribus de Conventu de personis vobis nominandis ad officium Sacrist(ari)æ vacantis; de communi consilio et consensu ordinaverunt et consenserunt in tres fratres vobis ad dictum officium nominandum; videlicet, in Fratres Nicholaum de Bourne, Ricardum de Clyve, et Johannem de Weston. Quemigitur istorum trium fratrum ad dictum officium ista vice duxeritis acceptandum, notificare dignemini mihi vestro, in capitulo, prout moris est, vice vestra publice nominandum. Valeat et vigeat vestra paternitas sancta in Christo. Data Cantuariæ xxj° die Maij, anno Dni. MCCCXXIIIJ^to.

123.—De vocatione G. Potel ad Dominum W. Archiepiscopum.

28 May 1324.
L. 138 *b*.

The Archbishop has asked the Prior to allow a monk to

Suo patri devotus filius id quod potest. Super hiis quæ nuper mihi mandastis, quod Fratrem Galfridum Potel ad vos destinarem, vobiscum per decem dies vel duodecim moraturum, providendo eidem de equis et

visit him for ten days, and in giving consent he expresses a wish that a monk might reside with the Archbishop continually according to old custom. He however warns him against the plots of the individual invited on this occasion.

vectura usque Gravesende, quod de eisdem ulterius non egebit; huic mandato vestro, licet Conventui multum suspecto, reverenter volo parere; et nedum per decem dies vel duodecim, sed potius per tot menses vel annos, vobiscum continue moraturum, pro antiqua et laudabili consuetudine Ecclesiæ vestræ Cantuariensis observanda, quæ vestro tempore hactenus est omissa. Verumptamen, quia jam instat celebris sollempnitas Pentecostes, in qua populus, utriusque sexus et nationis diversæ, ad ecclesiam vestram Cantuariensem catervatim confluet, more laudabili consueto, bene deceret quod dictus Frater G. tantæ sollempnitati in ecclesia vestra personaliter interesset. Nec circumveniamini si placet per verba dicti Fratris G., qui de statu Ecclesiæ vestræ Cantuariensis modicum cognovit, et minus proculdubio intellexit, qui litteras mihi directas, ad machinationem quorundam sibi adherentium, minus juste, ut dicitur, impetravit. Valeat et prospere vigeat, dominus meus pater et pastor. Data Cantariæ quinto Kalendas Junii, anno Dni. MCCCXXIIIJ^to.

(1324.)

L. 139 *a*.

The Prior reports favourably to the Archbishop on the discipline of the Convent.

124.—Certificatio de statu Conventus.

Suo patri devotus filius, &c. Ecce pater, a tempore ultimi recessus vestri de Cantuaria viget in Ecclesia vestra quies et tranquillitas usquequaque. In choro siquidem divinum officium devotius solito celebratur; in Capitulo cessant lites et jurgia; et observantia regularis optinet principatum; in claustro fit horis

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6 Sept. 1324.

L. 115 *b*.

Letter accompanying

126.—De Domibus atque Kayis nostris de Sandwyco.

A son bien aime en Dieu Pieres le Bard baillif nostre Seignur le Roy en Sandwiz, Henri Priour, etc. salutz come a son cors demeyne. Pur ceo que nous,

debitis residentia tolerabilis; et in ecclesia et curia exteriori cessant vagi discursus. Benedictus pastor qui gregem suum dispersum reduxit in unum.

125.—De negotio tangente visitationem Domini W(alteri) Archiepiscopi.

2 Aug. 1324.

L. 115 *b*.

On difficulties arising during recent visitation of the Archbishop.

Suo patri, etc. salutem. Litteras vestras ultimo mihi directas recepi die Sancti Albani matiris hora nona, et ea quæ super eisdem litteris sencio vobis scribo; scientes quod bene considerant fratres nostri occupationem vestram continuam pro arduis negociis Domini Regis et regni, et ideo absenciam vestram, pro utilitate reipublice occupatam, habent rationabiliter excusatam. Adhuc pater, si quæ sunt adhuc incompleta quæ ultimam visitationem vestram contingunt, poterunt sicut credo faciliter et feliciter expediri absque strepitu judiciali, ni forte fumus et flamma in visitatione vestra suborti, quæ jam pro magna parte, et creditur, sunt extincti, scandalum pareant recidivum. Si vero aliquis utilitas seu necessitas inopinata occurrat, pro quibus vestros ad Ecclesiam vestram veniendi maturare oportebit progressus, vobis non differam significare. Accessus vero vester ad Ecclesiam vestram, cessantibus legitimis impedimentis, mihi et Conventui erit consolatorius atque gratus: quia non possunt filii lugere quamdiu cum illis residet pater et pastor. Valeat vestra, etc. Data Cantuariæ die supradicto, anno Domini MCCCXXIIIJ^to^.

126.

To his well-beloved in God Peter le Bard, Bailiff of our Lord the King in Sandwich, Henry Prior, &c., health, such as he would desire for his own body.

a King's writ addressed to his bailiff at Sandwich.

sumes mult grevez a tort par ascune gentz de Sandwyz (qui) nous ont oste de nos mesons, que nous avons en la ville de Sandwyz de donn des Rois par cc. ans et plus; e nous savons bien qe ceo nestpas vostre volonte, nous vous enveyoms un bref nostre Seignur le Roi, qui fuist ordine par son conseil de enveyer a vous, pour faire nostre remedie, par vostre office, de tieles grevances. Et pur ceo nous vous prioms cherement qe vous plese faire nostre remedie par vostre office, solum le dit mandement nostre Seignur le Roi; qe nous puissions avoir et joyer en pes nos dites mesons ove totes les appertenances solum la forme de les eschaunges faites entre nostre Seignur le Roi et nous. Vostre volonte de ceste chose et de totes altres nous voillez remander par le portour de cestes lettres, come a vostre amy. Donez a Cantebire le vij. jour de Septembr, l'an du regne nostre Seignur le Roi Edward xviij^{me}.

(1324.) L. 115 *b*.

127.—Magistro N. de Tingewico.

Prior Eastry reports favourably, to his doctor, on

Suo suus seipsum et salutem. Licet gratias debitas vobis referre non valeo, illas tamen quas possum rependo pro sano et utili consilio et auxilio vestro mihi impensis vicebus repetitis; scientes quod calor et

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10 Aug. 1324. L. 139 *a*.

128.—Littera directa Domino H. de Valoynes pro insolentiis suis.

The Prior complains to H. de

A son bien ame en Dieu Monsire Henri de Valoynes, soun bien voillant Henri Priour del Esglise

Because we are much and wrongfully aggrieved by certain men of Sandwich, who have ousted us from our houses, which we have owned in the town of Sandwich by royal gift for more than two hundred years; and as we know well that this is not by your wish, we send you a writ of our Lord the King drawn by his counsel to be sent to you, to do us right in such oppressions, by virtue of your office. And therefore we heartily pray you that you will please to do us right, by virtue of your office, according to the said command of our Lord the King, so that we may be able to hold and enjoy in peace our said houses, with all the appurtenances, in the manner prescribed in the exchanges made between our Lord the King and us. Be pleased to report to us your will in this matter and in all others, by the bearer of these letters, as to your friend. Given at Canterbury the 7th day of September in the year of the reign of our Lord the King Edward, the 18th.

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sudor, qui alternatis diebus solebant me graviter infestare, post secundam susceptionem decoctionis illius quas nuper ordinastis, pro magna parte cessarunt, et cito postea totaliter recesserunt. Et sumptis postea vacuativis quæ similiter ordinastis, ab omni scandalo interius mihi interposito me solempniter purgaverunt, et famam et famem pristinam mihi restituerunt . . . . . .[1] the effects of his prescription.

128.

To his well-beloved in God Sir Henry de Valoynes, his well wisher Henry the Prior of the Church of Can-

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[1] Ab omni — restituerunt. This jest upon canonical purgation is cancelled, probably by the writer as unbecoming. Some more dignified expression substituted for it is destroyed by the fraying of the paper.

Valoynes of the riotous assemblage of armed retainers whom he maintains; begs him to alter his ways, and threatens proceedings if he persist.

de Canterbire saluz. Sachez, Sire, qe nous avoms sovent oi diverses choses qe sont a grant empeschement de vous et a blemissement de vostre honur, et auxi bien avant la mort nostre trescher ami Sire Warreis vostre piere come apres. Et nous, pur lamour et par encheson de lui, et pur vostre honur, avoms delaye et disturbe moult de gentz qi se voleynt aver pleynt de vous a pluis grantz de la terre; et auxi avoms entendu qe autres gentz du pays ount sovent presente diverses choses et moult chargantes de vous a ministres nostre Seignur le Roy, qi portent record; et nous les avoms prie et procuree avant ces houres sovent de surser et suffrir uncore de faire nul execution contre vous, solum les enditementes et les presentementes qe il unt recu par serementes de moult des gentz du pays. Et par ceo nous avoms grant merveille qe vous ensemble menez et mayntenez sovent moult des gentz armes, a grant afrai du poeple, pur faire deshonur, damage, et despit a autres gentz du pays, contre droit et reson. Pur quey nous vous prioms amiablement et especialement, qe vous voillez prendre autre et melliour avisement de tieles choses, issi qe nous ne altres ne eyoms encheson de pleyndre de tiels ensemblez, ne de monstrer aillours les outrages qe il fount, laa ou nous et altres entendoms aver bon remedie pur nous et pur les noz qe se sentent moult greve. A Dieu, qi vous gard et vous donit longe vie de bien faire. Donez a Broke, le jour de Saint Laurence, lan de grace MCCCXXIIIJ.

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23 Aug. 1324.

L. 138 *b*.

129.—Littera directa Domino R(oberto) de Schirlande.

A letter of goodwill sent by the Prior to

A son trescher et bien ame en Dieu Monsire Robert de Schirlande, Henri Priour del Esglise de Canterbirs, saluz et saunte de corps et del alme. Sire,

terbury, greeting. Know, Sir, that we have often heard various things that tend to the great disparagement of yourself, and to the injury of your honour, and this both before the death of our very dear friend Sir Warreis your father, and since then. And we, for love of and on account of him, and for your credit, have checked and hindered many persons who desired to complain of you to the great ones of the land; and also we have understood that other persons of the district have often brought divers and heavy charges against you before the officers of our Lord the King, who thereof bear record; and we have often before now prayed and procured that they should refrain and still withhold from you the execution consequent upon the indictments and presentments which they have received on the oaths of many men of these parts. And therefore we marvel greatly that you bring together, and often maintain, so many armed followers to the great terror of the people, for the purpose of doing dishonour, damage, and despite to other persons of the district, against right and reason. Wherefore, we pray you in friendship, and pressingly, that you will be pleased to take other and better method in such cases, so that neither we nor others may have occasion to complain of such gatherings, nor to prove elsewhere the outrages which they cause, that is to say, where we and others know how to obtain good redress for ourselves and for our dependents who feel themselves much aggrieved. God be with you, and keep you, and give you a long life to behave well. Given at Brook on St. Laurence's day in the year of grace 1324.

129.

To his very dear and well-beloved in God Sir Robert de Schirlande, Henry Prior of the Church of Canterbury, greeting, and health of body and soul. Sir, we thank

Sir R. Shurland (of Sheppey), Governor of a district in Gascony under the Crown of England.

nous vous mercioms moult de la bone volonte qe vous nous monstrastes nadgeres, quant il vous plust mander a nous vostre estat par voz lettres et desirez saver nostre estat. Sur quey, Sire, nous vous fesoms assavoir, qe le jour qe ceste lettre fust faite la Dieu merci nous fuymes en sante de corps, sicome nostre age le soeffre, et ceo desiroms pluis ver qe oir de vous. Et Dieu vous donit bien continuer la graciouse manere qe il vous ad done de vivere en pees et amour entre les gentz laa ou vous estes demoriant, sicome les grantz et les meindrez, qi vinent de les parties de Gascoyne en Engleterre, dient et tesmoignent communement. Et pur Dieu, Sire, eyez touz jours regard de vostre honur sicome vous avez avant ces houres touz jours eu; kar pluis est honur de home qe autri aver, par ceo qe pur autri avoir mult de gentz unt perdu lur honur demeigne. Et sachez, Sire, qe ceo qe nous purroms faire pur vous, devers Dieu, et Nostre Dame, et Saint Thomas, e autres corps saintz qe en nostre Esglise reposent, nous le froms bonement et devoutement. A Dieu, Sire, qe vous donit bien vivere, et bien morir, et a la joye de ciel venir. Donez a Canterbire la veille Saint Bartholome, lan de grace MCCCXXIIIJ.

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24 Aug. 1324.

L. 139 *a*.

130.—Confirmatio cujusdam ecclesiæ Priori et Conventui Wyntoniensi.

The Prior announces that he has complied with some request of the Prior of Winchester. The title implies that the Chapter of

Venerandæ religionis viro, Domino R. Dei gratia Priori Ecclesiæ Wyntoniensi, devotus suus Henricus permissione ejusdem Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis salutem illam quam peperit quæ sola post partum virgo permansit. Inducit honestas, excitat utilitas, et suadet ratio, sacræ religionis professores ab invicem distantes litteris consolatoriis invicem communicare, et mutuas petitiones, quæ a rationis tramite non deviant, feliciter exaudire. Nos igitur negotia

you much for the good will which you have lately shown to us in declaring to us the state of your health, and desiring to hear of ours; as to which, Sir, we let you know that on the day on which this letter was written, thanks be to God, we were in health of body as far as our age allows, and that we desire rather to see than to hear of the same in your case. And God grant you grace and continue to you the gracious way of life which he has given you, to live in peace and love with the people among whom you dwell, as both great and small who come from the parts of Gascony into England say, and testify equally. And, Sir, always have regard to your honour as up to this time you have always had, for the honour of a man is more than any other possession, for, for other possessions many have lost their own proper honour. And know, Sir, that whatever we can do for you in respect of God, and Our Lady, and Saint Thomas, and other holy bodies who repose in our Church, we will do it gladly and devotedly. God be with you, Sir, who grant to you to live well, and to die well, and to arrive at the joy of Heaven. Given at Canterbury on the eve of St. Bartholomew in the year of grace 1324.

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vestra, pro quibus clericum vestrum ad nos pridie destinastis, fecimus expediri. Adhuc qualitas nostri status, quam scire cupitis, hoc consistit, quod die dati præsentium nobis affuit prosperitas corporalis quatenus permittit adversitas mundialis, quæ incolas hujus regni angit ubilibet et constringit, nec ut credimus vobis parcit. Ea vero quæ aguntur in nostris partibus hiis diebus latori præsentium insinuavimus, vobis plenius relevanda organo vocis vivæ. Valeat et prospere vigeat devotio sancta vestra ad regimen subditorum vestrorum. Data Cantuariæ die Sancti Bartholomei Apostoli, anno Dni. MCCCXXIIIJ^to.

Canterbury has been asked to sanction the appropriation of a church to the uses of the Winchester monastery.

21 Sept. 1324.

L. 116 *a*.

131.—Excusacio de clerico non admittendo ad habitum monachalem.

An illiterate candidate for admission to the monastery rejected.

Suo suus seipsum totaliter et salutem. De statu Edmundi de Basingg, alumpni vestri, hac die Jovis, coram fratribus nostris, prout moris est, inter nos fecimus mencionem. Scientes quod persona dicti E. nobis et nostris fratribus multum placet, propter materiam ipsius bene dispositam ad majora. Et quia dictus E. usum et artem cantandi et legendi nondum habet, expedit quod

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5 Oct. 1324.

L. 116 *a*.

132.—Littera de custodia maris facienda.

The Prior's plan for avoiding false alarms of invasion.

A son trescher et bien ame en Dieu saluz. Sire, pur ceo qe par une legere crie ou corner des gentz passantz en pays purra le poeple tost estre moult afrae sans encheson, et meyns se hastereit autre foith de aler a la mer quant mester serroit; y semble qe bon est qe vous mandez a Visconte qe il face crier e defendre par toute la contee, en eglises, feyres, marches, et aillours par tout laa ou gentz serront ensemblez, en franchises ou dehors, qe nul ne soit si harde, sur peyne de imprisonement, de lever commune crie, ne de corner, ne corn soner, avant qe les gentz qui sount pluis pros sur la mer demorrantz levent commune crie et facent corner quant ils verront les enemis en la mer e approchantz la terre. Et sachez, Sire, qe en mesme la manere fuist fait ore a xxx. anz, en temps le Roi Edward; et auxi hore a lx. auz en temps le Roi Henry son piere, quant il y avoit autre-foith garde sur mer. Endroit de cestes choses vous enfrez ceo qe nous verrez qe bien soit afer. A Dieu qui vous gard et quant qe a vous apent. Donez a Canterbire le quint jour de Octobr, lan de grace MCCCXXIIIJ.

in juventute sua, dum competens tempus habet, terminos grammaticales et usum et artem cantandi et legendi addiscat, ad sui ipsius et aliorum commodum et honorem; quæ omnia infra non longi temporis spatium faciliter, si voluerit, poterit expedire. Quibus habitis, ipsum E. ad ordinem et habitum nostrum promptis desideriis admittemus. Valeat sicut valere vellemus in Christo per suæ matris misericordia gloriosa. Data Cantuariæ vigilia Sancti Matthei Apostoli, anno Domini MCCCXXIIIJ.

132.

To his very dear and well-beloved in God, greeting. Sir, seeing that by a paltry outcry or trumpeting of people passing inland, the inhabitants may be easily much alarmed without cause, and less ready at another time to go down to the sea when there is real need, it appears proper that you should send to the Sheriff that he may cause to be proclaimed, and forbid throughout the whole county in churches, fairs, markets, and elsewhere, in all places where people may be assembled, both within privileged areas and without them, that no one shall be so bold, on pain of imprisonment, as to raise the *common cry*, or to sound trumpet or blow horn, before the people who are dwelling nearest to the sea raise the *common cry*, and blow horns when they see the enemy on the sea and approaching land. And, know, Sir, that now thirty years ago in the time of King Edward, this was how the thing was done; and also sixty years back from the present time, in the days of King Henry his father when again there was a guard on the sea(coast). As to these things you will do that which seems to you best to be done. God be with you, who keep you and all belonging to you. Given at Canterbury the 5th day of October, in the year of grace 1324.

(Nov. 1324).

133.—De legenda concepcionis Beatæ Mariæ.

L. 116 *b*.

A friend (the Archbishop?) asks the Prior's opinion as to the orthodoxy

Salutem. Mittimus vobis legendam de festo Concepcionis Beatæ Mariæ quam in libris de officiis ecclesiasticis multarum cathedralium, conventualium, collegiatarum, et parochialium ecclesiarum in regno Angliæ et Franciæ vidimus contineri. Et quia de hujusmodi festo Concepcionis celebrando diversi diversa

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(1325).

134.—Ceo est la peticion le Priour de Canterbire pur la novele chapele en le almoignerie.

L. 116 *b*.

Prior Eastry's new chapel in the Almonry.

Pur ceo qe le Priour de Canterbire ad fait faire une novele chapele de Nostre Dame a Canterbire, et ordine vi. prestres qi chanteront toutz jours en la dite chapele pur nostre Seignur le Roy, et ses auncestres, et pur totes almes Christienes; prie a nostre Seignur le Roy le dit Priour le luy plese confermer cele chanterie, sicome Larcevesque de Canterbire ad fait; e qe luy plese defendre par ses lettres qe nul ne deface ne destorbe cele chanterie, qe est issi ordine pur luy, e pur ses auncestres, et pur totes almes Christienes.

(Nov. 1324).

135.—De Clericis admittendis ad habitum monachalem.

L. 116 *a*.

The Prior asks the Archbishop to continue a licence granted to him for conferring

Suo patri filius id quod possit obedienciæ reverentiæ et honoris. Mitto vobis litteram vestram inspiciendam, quam domino Roberti Crul dum viveret destinastis, inter cætera continentem verba subscripta: *dicatis ex parte nostra . . . Priori nostro Cantuariensi quod ad xij. monachos recipiendos in Ecclesia nostra*

sentiunt, in suo sensu gloriantes, amiciciam vestram requirimus et rogamus quatinus hanc legendam inspicere velitis et examinare. Et si aliquid erroneum, hereticum, vel minus catholicum inveneritis in eadem legenda nobis significare velitis per presencium portitorem, et in qua parte scripturæ, et in quibus verbis error consistit. Scimus enim quod in dictis ecclesiis Angliæ et Franciæ hæc festivitas Concepcionis communiter celebratur. Valete sicut valere vellemus. of the legend and festival of the Conception of Our Lady.

134.—This is the petition of the Prior of Canterbury for the new chapel in the Almonry.

Whereas the Prior of Canterbury has caused to be made a new chapel of Our Lady, at Canterbury, and assigned seven priests who will sing (mass) daily in the said chapel for our Lord the King and his ancestors, and for all Christian souls; the said Prior prays our Lord the King that it will please him to confirm (the foundation of) this chantry, as the Archbishop of Canterbury has already done; and that he will please by his letters, to forbid that anyone shall injure or disturb this chantry, which is thus established for him, and for his ancestors and for all Christian souls.

Cantuariensi, pro quibus nobis supplicavit, concedimus facultatem. Et quia de hujusmodi numero duodeno quinque personas tamen modo recepi, et intendo augere Conventum usque ad numerum duodecim personarum, quamcicius potero personas ydoneas explorare, placeat vobis concessionem vestram, ut præmittitur alias mihi factam, usque ad hujusmodi numerum duodenum ratificare, in augmentum cultus divini, beneplacitum vestrum significantes in hiis et aliis mihi vestro. Dat., etc. the monastic habit.

9 Nov. 1324.

L. 116 *a*.

136.—De Episcopo Exoniensi et terra emenda apud Horslegh.

The Prior promises to give the Archbishop his decision in a matter of business after he has consulted experts.

Suo patri, devotus filius id quod possit obedienciæ, reverentiæ, et honoris. Super hiis quæ nuper, ix° die Novembris, per vestras litteras mihi mandastis, quodque voluntatem meam domino Exoniensi Episcopo per literarum bajulum rescriberem super premissis; vestra paternitas satis novit quod de feodis Ecclesiæ que Conventum contingunt non licet mihi, nec expedit, aliquid perpetuo disponere vel ordinare fratribus inconsultis. Habita vero super premissis debita informacione senescallorum et ballivorum nostrorum de comitatu Surrey, quibus tempestive scribam super præmissis quodque nichil interim indebite contra vos attemptent, et pleniori habito tractatu cum fratribus nostris in communi qui requiritur in hac parte, deliberacionem ipsorum vobis significabo plenius sine mora, et hoc idem scripsi dicto domino Exoniensi per presentium portitorem, jure et honore Ecclesiæ vestræ Cantuariensi in omnibus semper salvis. Valeat et vigeat, dominus meus pater et pastor, in prosperitate ad regimen Ecclesiæ sanctæ Christi. Dat. Cant. die supradicto, anno Domini MCCCXXIIIJ.

Nov. 1324.

L. 116 *b*.

137.—Item de eodem.

He makes the same promise to

Venerabili in Xpo. patri domino W(altero) Dei gratia Exoniensi episcopo H(enricus) Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, salutem illam quam peperit quæ sola

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(1324.)

L. 137 *b*.

139.—Petitiones pro terris et tenementis ad cantariam elemosinariæ.

One of several petitions asking for

Ceo est la petition le Priour et le Covent del Esglise de Canterbire. Trescher Seignur, pur ceo qe Wauter Colpeper tint de nous et de nostre Esglise de

post partum virgo permansit, cum omni reverencia et honore. Super hiis quæ nuper ix° die Novembris per vestras litteras mihi mandastis, quodque vobis senescallo et ballivis nostris de Horslegh voluntatem meam rescriberem in hac parte per presencium portitorem; vestra paternitas satis novit quod de feodo, etc. (ut sit in littera domini Archiepiscopus usque *sine mora*). Jure et honore nostræ Cantuariensis Ecclesiæ in omnibus semper salvis. Valeat et vigeat vestra reverenda paternitas in prosperitate felici. Dat. ut supra.

the Bishop of Exeter, who is concerned in the business.

138.—Littera pro fratibus ordinandis. (1324.)

L. 136 *b*.

Venerabili in Christo patri, Domino H(aymoni) Dei gratia Episcopo Roffensi, suus Henricus permissione ejusdem Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, cum omni reverentia et honore, salutem. Quia venerabilis pater W(alterus) Dei gratia Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, nostris nuper precibus inclinatus, nobis concessit, ut a quocumque Episcopo provinciæ Cantuariensis fratres et commonachi nostri ad omnes sacros ordines, quos non sunt hactenus assecuti, valeant promoveri; dilectos nobis in Christo fratres Ricardum de Oxendenne et Petrum de Salis, subdiaconos, ad vos fiducialiter destinamus; paternitati vestræ, tota qua decet reverentia supplicantes, quatinus placeat vobis dictos fratres, in instantibus ordinibus celebrandis, per sacrarum manuum vestrarum impositionem, diaconos ordinari. Valeat et prospere vigeat vestra paternitas. Dat. &c.

The Bishop of Rochester is asked by the Prior to confer holy orders on two monks of Canterbury; the Archbishop consenting.

139.

This is the petition of the Prior and the Convent of the Church of Canterbury. Our dear Lord, whereas Walter Colpeper held of us, and of our Church of Can-

a rent forfeited to the Crown after the execution of Walter Colepeper.

Canterbire une petite terre partable en Eastfarlegh, pur certeigne rente qe la terre nous deit; et la dite terre, qe est estendu par an a v. mars, est ore en vostre main par la forfeture le dit Wauter, nous prioms et requeroms vostre treschere Seignurie, pur lamour de Dieu et de Saint Thomas, qe il vous plese donier et granter a nous la dite terre, en aide de la sustenance de vij. chapeleins, qi chescun jour chanteront pur vous, et pur les almes de voz auncestres, et de touz Cristiens, en la novele chapele qe nous avoms fait faire par encheson de ceo en Canterbire, en le honour de Nostre Dame et de Saint Thomas le Martir.

(1324.)

L. 137 *b*.

140.—Littera regrationis amici.

Archbishop Walter having deputed Robert de Baldok the King's Chancellor to make a visitation of the monastery, the Prior asks him to spare one of his assistants for a few days, so that coming to Canterbury he may advise the Chapter in matters connected with the visitation.

Venerandæ discretionis viro Magistro R(oberto) de Baldok, Domini Regis Angliæ illustris Cancellario, devotissimus Henricus Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis semetipsum, et salutem illam quam peperit illa quæ post partum virgo permansit. Pulsat nos diligens cura et continua sollicitat instantia, ut circa subditorum nostrorum statum salubriter dirigendum, sic efficacibus et promptis operibus intendamus, quod, præclusa via molestis eventibus, ipsorum cessent gravamina, et tranquillitatis et pacis eis perveniant incrementa. Scimus enim, et ex evidentia facti sentimus, quod nisi tempore pacis non bene colitur pacis Auctor. Sane inducit nos honestas, excitat utilitas, et suadet ratio, pro grata benevolentia vestra nobis impensa, vicibus repetitis grates vobis rependere quantas valemus, quia non sufficimus quas tenemur, et in parte solutionis nostri debiti vobis offerimus cor et corpus. Quum igitur venerabilis pater Dominus Walterus, Dei gratia Archiepiscopus noster Cantuariensis, tibi, die Lunæ proximo post festum Purificationis Beatæ Mariæ, Ecclesiam nostram Cantuariensem in personis et rebus

terbury, a small severable estate in East Farleigh at a certain rent which is due to us from the land; and the said estate, which is estimated at five marcs a year, is now in your hand, through the forfeiture of the said Walter, we pray and require your very dear lordship, for love of God and of Saint Thomas, that it will please you to give and grant to us the said estate, in aid of the maintenance of seven chaplains who every day will sing (masses) for you, and for the souls of your ancestors, and of all Christians, in the new chapel that we have caused to be built for that purpose in Canterbury, in honour of Our Lady, and of Saint Thomas the Martyr.

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ordinaverit visitare, et ausus temerarios quorundam insolentium debita sollicitudine boni pastoris corrigere et coartare; discretionem vestram et dilectionem, de qua certam et expertam gerimus fiduciam, corditer exoramus, quod placeat benignitati vestræ Magistro Galfrido de Eyton licentiam indulgere, dicto die Lunæ, apud Cantuariam personaliter veniendi, et per aliquos dies ibidem nobiscum moram modicam faciendi, propter aliquos casuales eventus, qui sæpius in hiis visitationibus inopinate contingunt. Beneplacitum vestrum in hiis et aliis velitis renuntiare, per bajulum præsentium, toti vestro. Dat. Cant.

141.—[Littera Cancellario Universitatis Oxoniensis directa.] (1324.)

L. 139 *b*

The Prior consults the Chancellor of the University of Oxford on a form of the office.

Venerandæ discretionis viro, Magistro . . . . . ., Cancellario Universitatis Oxoniensis, Henricus permissione divina Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, salutem illam quam peperit puerpera singularis. Inducit honestas, et suadet ratio, ac excitat utilitas sapientes et discretos consulere, super hiis maxime

for the festival of the Conception of Our Lady which he finds in use in many churches.

quæ Dei cultum concernunt, et gloriosæ matris suæ laudem respiciunt et honorem. Mittimus igitur vobis inspiciendam et examinandam quandam scripturæ paginam, quam in libris de officiis ecclesiasticis in multis cathedralibus, conventualibus, collegiatis, et parochialibus ecclesiis, tam in regno Angliæ quam Franciæ, dudum invenimus registratam, et in festo Conceptionis gloriosæ Virginis annis singulis in dictis ecclesiis recitatam. Qua, si placet, examinata, si aliquid erroneum vel minus catholicum inveneritis in eadem, nobis, per bajulum præsentium, in qua parte scripturæ, et in quibus verbis, error consistit significare velitis. Valete sicut valere vellemus in Xpo., ad vestrorum regimen subditorum.

2 Feb. 1325.

L. 139 *b*.

142.—De testamento Domini R. Archiepiscopi terminando.

The Prior requests the Archbishop to complete the administration of the estate of his predecessor Robert Winchelsey.

Suo patri devotus filius, id quod potest obedientiæ, reverentiæ, et honoris. Quia executio testamenti celebris memoriæ Domini Roberti, prædecessoris vestri immediati, variis modis sumpsit hactenus dilationem, et executores ejusdem testamenti, quibus tota administratio fuit commissa, ab hac luce migraverint, superstite uno solo; paternitatem vestram devotis precibus deprecor et exoro, quatinus, examinatis inventario

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11 Jan. (1325).

L. 116 *b*.

144.—Item de eodem.

To a legal adviser on the same subject.

Salutz. Endroit de ceo qe vous nous mandastes nadgeres par vos lettres des busoignes qui touchent le Evesque de Excestre et nous, il covent avoir regard del temps qui est moult divers et perilous, et coment les busoignes en temps qui ore est sont menez et tretez en moult des luys par poer de seignurie et par violence. Et par ceo qe le dit evesque ad conge du

bonorum dicti defuncti et expensis necessariis dictorum executorum ac aliis circumstantiis concomitantibus et contingentibus dictum testamentum, placeat vobis imponere finem negotiis supradictis, prout credideritis Altissimo complacere, propter obloquium populare. Legatarii vero incessanter et importune me stimulant vobis scribere super præmissis. Valeat et prospere vigeat, dominus meus pater et pastor. Dat. Cant. secundo die Februarii, anno Dni. MCCCXXIIIJ^to^. The testator had been dead twelve years.

143.—De Episcopo Exoniensi et terra de Horslegh. 18 Jan. 1325.

Venerabili in Christo patri domino W(altero) Dei gratia Exoniensi episcopo, domini nostri Domini Regis Angliæ illustris Thesaurario, devotus suus H(enricus) Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis salutem, cum debita reverencia et honore. Noverit vestra paternitas reverenda quod mandavimus senescallo et ballivis nostris de Horslegh, prout alias per litteras vestras nos rogastis, quod vos et vestros in pace permittant, nec impedimentum aliquod vobis præstent quo ad tenementa vobis et successoribus vestris de feodo nostro noviter adquisita; juribus et libertatibus dictæ Ecclesiæ nostræ Cantuariensis in omnibus semper salvis. Valeat et vigeat vestra salus in Christo, per suæ matris et beati martiris Thomæ merita gloriosa. Dat. Cant. xviij. die Januarii, anno Domini MCCCXXIIIJ. L. 116 *b*. A continuation of the subject treated of on p. 130.

144.

Greeting. As to what you sent to us lately, by your letters, touching the business which concerns the Bishop of Exeter and ourselves, it behoves to pay regard to the times which are most changeable and perilous, and how matters, in the times as they now are, are conducted and managed by masterfulness and violence. And seeing that the said bishop has licence from the King, and his charter,

Roy et sa chartre de purchacer a luy et a ses successours les tenementz qe il ad purchace de nostre fee in Horslegh, sauve chescuny droit, ysemble qe le Roy ne deit mie seiser ne prendre en sa meyn, par la reson del estatut de morte meyn, les ditz tenementz qe levesque ad purchace de nostre fee, apres lan, si nous souffroms qe le dit evesque puisse meyn overer a nostre volonte et par nostre suffrance en les ditz tenementz, et faire a nous fealte, seute de court, et totes maneres coustumes et services qe la terre nous deyt, sicome un altre de noz tenantz de meisme le manoir. Et pur ceo metez ceste chose en suffrance tant qe vous eyez parle a nous. Donez a Canterbire le xj. jour de Januer.

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2 Feb. 1325.

145.—De vacatione ecclesiæ de Godmersham.

L. 139 *b*.

The Prior suspecting that the right of presentation to the Church of Godmersham has through the Archbishop's neglect lapsed to himself, consults a person skilled in ecclesiastical law.

Salutem quam sibi. Ad diversitatem corporum sequitur diversitas voluntatum, et ideo diversi diversimodo sentiunt, in dubiis frequenter decepti. Sane, quia ultimus rector ecclesiæ de Godmersham, Cantuariensis diœcesis, anno et dimidio jam elapso diem suum clausit extremum, prout communiter asserunt ejusdem ecclesiæ parochiani, multi mirantur quod dicta ecclesia tanto tempore vacavit absque rectore, et dicunt non pauci quod tempus Domini Archiepiscopi infra quod dictam ecclesiam debuit contulisse totaliter est effluxum, et jus providendi eidem ecclesiæ ista vice juxta canonicas sanctiones est ad alios devolutum; et quia difficile nobis est singulis inde scisitantibus aliquid certum in ambiguo respondere, dilectionem vestram requirimus et rogamus, quatinus de certitudine status ejusdem ecclesiæ, et quid actum est a tempore ultimi rectoris ejusdem defuncti, velitis nos per latorem præsentium plenius informare, quia sicut plures alii sumus incerti; quia nec rector, nec alicujus certæ personæ procurator seu negotiorum gestor,

(permitting him) to acquire for himself and his successors the tenements which he has acquired in our fee in Horsley, all rights being reserved, it appears that the King ought by no means to seize or take into his hand the said tenements which the bishop has purchased in our fee, after the lapse of a year, if we permit the said bishop to be able to act after our will and by our permission in the said tenements, and to do fealty to us, suit of court, and all manner of customs and services which are owed from the land, just as is done by any other of our tenants of the same manor. And therefore let these things be postponed until you have spoken to us. Given at Canterbury the 11th day of January.

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in dicta rectoria se ostendit, set tanquam navis vacua relinquitur carens rectore, et velut ovile non habens gregem neque pastorem. Sufficit tamen nobis quod omnia in hac parte, absque præjudicio juris alieni justo libramine, disponantur. Valete sicut valere vellemus. Dat. Cant. secundo die Februarii, anno Dni. MCCCXXIIIJ^to^, sub sigillo nostro privato.

146.—De transitu Dominæ Reginæ et Domini W(alteri) Archiepiscopi. 8 Feb. 1325. L. 140 *b*.

Suo patri, totius salutis auctorem. De transitu Dominæ Reginæ et vestro ad partes Franciæ habeo spem bonam, et utinam inveniatis ibidem bonam fidem, quia tunc sequetur caritas quæ aperiet congruam viam paci. Decet, pater, et expedit, ut videtur, quod Dominæ Reginæ, antequam transeat, restituatur consuetus et nobilis apparatus, ac etiam solita comitiva et familia utriusque sexus. Alioquin, fiet vobis forsitan alibi gravis quæstio super præmissis. Adhuc pater, de applicatione vestra apud Whytsand oportebit

The Prior offers his advice to the Archbishop, about to go over sea with the Queen, and shows him how he may fabricate a good excuse for

declining an unpleasant journey.

vos plenius cogitare; scientes quod Comes Boloniæ et ministri ejus, et alii ipsius Comitis locum tenentes, quamcito veneritis ibidem arestabunt equos et harnesia et alia bona vestra quæcunque, quousque satisfeceritis dicto Comiti, vel locum ipsius tenenti, de magna summa pecuniæ quam exiget a vobis, sicut exigere consuevit a quolibet Archiepiscopo Cantuariensi in primo adventu suo ibidem, pro habenda libertate et immunitate, ad totam vitam ipsius Archiepiscopi, a præstatione thelonei et aliarum consuetudinum, quas apud Whytsand et Boloniam a transeuntibus exigunt; et ea occasione habebitis colorem excusandi vos ab hujusmodi itinere arripiendo. Et si omni modo transire debetis, expedit quod præmittatis apud Whitsand aliquos de vestris ad tractandum et faciendum finem cum ministris dicti Comitis super præmissis. Valete et valeat vestra salus in prosperitate felici. Dat. Cant. VIIJ^{vo} die Februarii, anno Dni. MCCCXXIIIJ^{to}. Istam, pater, cedulam non aspiciat oculus alienus, propter varios rerum eventus.

L. 139 *b*.

(Feb. 1325.)

147.—De testamento Magistri A. de Brugg.

The Prior, who has been appointed executor of a part of the will of A. de Brugg (Canon of St. Paul's and Counsel of the Convent), utterly renounces the office.

Suo patri, id quod devotus filius scit et possit. Licet Magister A. de Brugg, nuper defunctus, in testamento suo me specialiter nominavit ad ordinandum certum locum sui corporis sepulturæ, et de expensis funerariis solummodo ordinandis, tamen in aliis testamentum suum contingentibus me non constituit executorem; et licet me unicum et singularem, sive unum cum aliis constituisset executorem, nunquam de administratione bonorum dicti defuncti me intromitterem. Et hæc pater reverende vobis notifico, et omnibus executoribus in dicto testamento nominatis, ac etiam aliis quibuscunque quorum interest volo similiter esse

nota. Valeat et prospere vigeat dominus meus pater et pastor, et valeant qui vos valere desiderant et vigere, Dat. etc.

148.—De marisco de Sesaltre.

7 Feb. 1325.

L. 140 *a*.

The tenants of Seasalter desire to embank the marsh land of the manor, and the Prior as their spokesman proposes to the Archbishop that he shall consent to pay his rate with the rest. He encloses a petition from the principal tenant.

Suo patri filius devotus, salutem et totaliter semetipsum. Ex parte Thomæ de Faversham exhibita fuit mihi nuper quædam petitio, præsentibus interclusa, quam idem Thomas prius vobis et vestro consilio exhibuit, prout mihi nuntiavit; et quia hæc petitio tangit non modicam utilitatem vestram, et hominum et tenentium vestrorum, ac etiam hominum et tenentium nostrorum et Ecclesiæ vestræ Cantuariensis, videtur mihi quod expedit vobis et vestris ac nobis et nostris annuere huic petitioni, et rationabilem contributionem facere juxta ratam cujuslibet portionis, pro tanta terra salvanda, quæ salvari non poterit sine communi subsidio dominorum et aliorum tenentium earundem terrarum. Quocirca paternitati vestræ humiliter supplico et devote, quatinus super hoc negotio placeat vobis renuntiare vestrum beneplacitum, per bajulum præsentium, mihi vestro. Et si forte videatur vobis onerosum contribuere juxta ratam portionis dominicarum terrarum vestrarum pro salvatione dictarum terrarum, præfatus Thomas paratus est indempnitati vestræ prospicere per sufficientem securitatem, in petitione prædicta contenta. Valeat et vigeat vestra paternitas ad regimen Ecclesiæ Sanctæ Christi. Dat. Cant. septimo die Februarii, anno Dni. MCCCXXIIIJ^to.

L. 140 *a*. Feb. (1325.)

149.—Petitio Thomæ de Favresham facta Domino Archiepiscopo pro marisco de Sesaltre.

The petition of the principal tenant in Seasalter sent to the Archbishop enclosed in the foregoing letter.

A son treshonourable et saint piere, Sire Walter par la soeffrance de Dieu Ercevesque de Canterbire, monstre son tenant Thomas de Faveresham, auxi come, Sire, piusours foith il le vous ad monstre et a vostre conseil, qe come divers tenants tenent en Bocton, Harnhill, Gravene, et Sesaltre al nombre de sept centz acres de mareis sale et pluis, dont, treshonourable Sire, vous estes tenant en demeyne de cent et cinquante acres, et tout le pluis del remenant est tenu de vostre Esglise de Canterbirs, dont, Sire, vostre Priour et Covent de meisme le luy prennent x. marcs par an parmy les meyns des tenantz; les queux tenantz volentiers se acordent de entrer le dit mareis encontre la mer, si vous plèse pur vostre portion mettre les coustages, pur grant peril et destruction qe lour avent de jour en jour par reful del ewe, par quoy le dit mareis est en poynt destre perdu et noye, si plustost remedie covenable ney soyt mis; sur quoy, treshonourable Piere, si vous plest de mettre le mayn aidante, et vostre portion a la value faire payer. Et, tresame Sire, si vostre conseil se doute qe cele entre ne soit pas seure pur temps avenir, ledit Thomas enprendra denclore vostre portion a ses custages demeigne, rendant a vous et a voz successours par an tant come vous ou voz predecessours en nul temps, as communes annez, de ceo solyez prendre; et, en seurte de vous et de vostre Esglise, son manoir de Gravene, qi de vous est tenu par service qe donne garde, obligier a toutz jours. A quele chose, Sire, si vous plese voillez assentir.

Nomina mariscorum pertinentium ad Sesaltre: Stonberk, Maylond, Cowhope, Robertysmersh et Westfletc.

149.

To his most honourable and holy father the Lord Walter, by God's permission Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas de Faversham, his tenant, sheweth, just as, Sire, he has shown many times to you and your counsel, that whereas various tenants hold lands in Boughton, Hernhill, Graveney, and Seasalter, to the number of seven hundred acres and more of salt marsh, of which, most honourable Sire, you are tenant in demesne of a hundred and fifty acres, and the greater part of the remainder is held from your Church of Canterbury, from which, Sire, your Prior and Convent of the same place receive ten marcs a year at the hands of the tenants; the which tenants voluntarily agree to reclaim the said marsh from the sea, (if you will be pleased to contribute your rate towards the costs), on account of the great peril and danger which impends over them from one day to another, from the reflux of water, owing to which the said marsh is at the point of being lost and drowned, if all the sooner some sufficient remedy be not applied; whereupon, most honourable father, be pleased to give a helping hand, and to contribute your proportion in value. And, much loved Sire, if your counsel should doubt that this reclaiming will be secure in time to come, the said Thomas will undertake to enclose your portion at his own cost, paying to you and your successors every year, whatever amount you or your predecessors at any time, in average years, have been accustomed to receive thence; and for surety to you and to your Church, (he will undertake) to pledge for ever his manor of Graveney which is held from you by service of watch and ward. To which thing, Sire, be pleased to agree.

14 May 1325.

L. 140 *b*.

150.—De processione rogationum facienda per clerum decanatus Cantuariensis.

The Prior reminds the Archbishop that the Rogation processions are not properly observed in the Deanery of Canterbury.

Salutem. Licet clerus et populus ac etiam religiosi, tam exempti quam non exempti, civitatis, diœcesis, et vestræ provinciæ Cantuariensis processiones sollempnes, quas Sancta Mater Ecclesia, ex certis causis necessariis, per tres dies continuos ante Dominicam Ascensionem fieri statuit ab antiquo, devotis obsequiis faciant annuatim; rectores tamen, et vicarii, ac presbyteri parochiales, et ceteræ personæ ecclesiasticæ in decanatu Cantuariensi hujusmodi processiones facere non curant, nec aliorum decanatuum processionibus interesse. Cum tamen ipsi sicut alii Christi fideles indigeant propitiatione divina, et exemplum imitabile aliis esse deberent qui a sinu Matris Ecclesiæ magis distant, decet igitur et expedit super hiis remedium statuere et ordinare, debita sollicitudine pastorali. Præmissa vobis denuntio quia vos forsitan latuerunt. Valeat, etc. Dat. Cant. xiiij° die Maii, anno Dni. MCCCXXV.

4 June (1325).

L. 140 *b*.

151.—De permutatione ecclesiæ Sci. Michaelis in Crokedelane Londoniarum.

The Prior absent at one of the manors of his House, writes to the Supprior, recommending that the Chapter should be cautious in consenting to the exchange of

Salutem. Super hiis quæ nobis hac die Martis scripsistis, quoad permutationem ecclesiæ Sci. Michaelis Londoniarum, quæ de patronatu nostro existit, cum alia ecclesia Wyntoniensis diœcesis tolerandam, vestram et fratrum nostrorum sanam et circumspectam deliberationem merito commendamus. Non enim erat intentio conditoris illius canonis qui sic incipit: "Licet in tua "diœcesi—:" quod hujusmodi permutationes beneficiorum fierent aliqualiter nisi utrique beneficiatorum libere ac sine fraude sua beneficia primitus resignarent. Libertas vero excludit omnem timorem, necessitatem, coactionem,

pactum, et contractum. Secundum quod dicit Guydo super prædictum decretalem: "Licet in tua—" et extunc de eodem: "Quæsitum fraus vero et dolus bonæ fidei semper repugnat."—Videtur igitur nobis, sicut et vobis, quod non decet nec expedit hujusmodi permutationibus statim et leviter consentire, quousque informationem pleniorem habuerimus a fidedignis, quod causa hujusmodi permutationis sit licita, necessaria, et honesta, et de vita et conversatione laudabili rectoris ecclesiæ Wintoniensis diœcesis penitus nobis ignoti; et quod inter personas beneficia sua permutare volentes fraus non lateat neque dolus; nec de libera resignatione ipsorum adhuc nobis non constat, quæ requiritur in casu permutationis. Valeat sicut valere vellemus. Datum apud Ikham, iiij^to^ die Junii.

a benefice in their patronage.

152.—Excusatio de facienda executione contra Archiepiscopum Eboracensem.

14 July 1325.

L. 141 *a*.

Salutem quam sibi. Receptis nuper litteris Domini nostri Cantuariensis de bajulatione crucis Eboraci, ac in Capitulo nostro ea qua decuit reverentia recitatis, de antiquitate datæ ejusdem litteræ mirabantur non modicum fratres nostri, quia post datam ejusdem litteræ Dominus Archiepiscopus Eboracensis in præsentia dicti patris nostri Londoniis, ut dicitur, crucem suum ante se publice fecit deferri. Nec est auditum in partibus nostris, quod aliqua executio facta fuerit contra hujusmodi bajulationem crucis hiis diebus in civitate vel suburbio Londoniarum. Mirantur insuper fratres nostri, quod dictus pater noster Cantuariensis mutavit modum et formam consuetam filiis suis scribendi. Solebat enim, nedum idem pater verum etiam sancti patres prædecessores sui qui pro tempore fuerint, scribere Capitulo ratione ecclesiæ Cathedralis, et aliis religiosis scribere Conventui ratione ecclesiæ

The Prior, who has been ordered by the Archbishop to use strong measures if the Archbishop of York should cause his cross to be carried before him in the diocese of Canterbury, asks a correspondent in the Archbishop's household

to obtain a modification of the mandate.

conventualis, et collegio in ecclesia collegiata. Ex eo insuper quod nobis et Conventui nostro mandatur, quod si dictus Archiepiscopus Eboracensis civitatem Cantuariam erecta cruce ingrediatur, tunc ipsius ingressu, incessu, et mora durantibus, ipsam ecclesiam nostram ecclesiastico interdicto supponamus, et interdictam faciamus interim remanere; nostris fratribus dissuetum et verecundum videtur ecclesiam nostram matricem, et nosmetipsos qui ejusdem ecclesiæ sumus corpus et membra, sine culpa nostra supponere ecclesiastico interdicto, et aliæ conventuales et collegiatæ et etiam parochiales ecclesiæ civitatis et suburbii Cantuariæ eodem tempore non cessabunt divina sollempniter celebrare. Ordinetis igitur, unacum aliis de consilio dicti patris, aliquam executionem effectualiter faciendam contra injuriosam et præjudicialem bajulationem crucis Eboraci in civitate, diœcesi, et provincia Cantuarensi, quæ non cedet Ecclesiæ metropolitanæ Cantuariensi et nobis in contumeliam singularem. Ignominiosum vero nobis erit a divinis cessare, quum alii civitatis et suburbii Cantuariæ divina solempniter celebrabunt. Valeat sicut valere vellemus in Christo. Dat. Cant. xiiij. die Julii, anno Dni. MCCCXXV.

31 July 1325.

L. 141 *a*.

153.—Littera missa Domino Archiepiscopo de visitatione Norwycensi.

The first part of this letter alludes to the Archbishop's proposed visitation, as Primate, of the vacant diocese of Norwich. The latter part of the letter contains

Suo patri devotus filius id quod possit. Super inopinatis et inauditis eventibus de quibus, in litteris vestris. nuper mihi directis, mentionem fecistis, difficile videtur id quod melius est providere; præcipue quando temporalia mere spiritualibus præferuntur. Visitatio vero vestra Norwycensis non est pro vento invalido prætermittenda, quia non omnes feriunt qui minantur. Adversitas omnis mundialis multos de facili deprimit titubantes; mores vero et conditiones Domini nostri Regis satis novistis qui devotis supplicationibus facilius

flectitur quam rigore. In hoc siquidem mari magno et spatioso in quo continua sollicitudine navigatis, naviculam Christi regendo, assistet vobis Gubernator ille prudens cui venti obediunt atque mare; et licet fluctus insiliant tamen naufragium non est timendum; quia Petrum, pastorem Ecclesiæ militantis, in fluctibus ambulantem, ne mergeretur, Christus erexit. De passagio vero Domini Regis ad partes Franciæ multi multa referunt et diversa. Quicquid tamen dicant et proponant homines, disponet, prout vult, finaliter ipse Deus. Valeat et vigeat vestra paternitas reverenda in prosperitate felici ad regimen Ecclesiæ sanctæ Christi. Dat. Cant. ultimo die mensis Julii, anno Dni. M°CCC°XXV^to^.

the Prior's advice to the Archbishop upon political matters. This is as usual vague and timid.

154.—De confirmatione Domini Electi Norwycensis et de passagio Domini Regis pro homagio suo faciendo.

15 Aug. (1325.)
L. 141 *b*.

Suo patri devotus filius totaliter semetipsum. Super hiis quæ nuper mihi per litteras vestras et bajulum præsentium notificastis grates vobis refero quantas possum. Negotia vero electionis et Electi Norwycensis sunt circumspecte, ut mihi videtur, et sagaciter expedita cum protestatione domini Electi, ad quam faciendam ipsum consultius induxistis; quia multi multa referunt et diversa de reservatione Domini Papæ, et per hujusmodi protestationem, quo ad vos et dictum Electum, omnia sunt in tuto, dum tamen consecratio Electi clandestina non sequatur. In tractatu vero apud Stur', in proximo habendo in præsentia prælatorum, comitum, et baronum, ac aliorum terræ magnatum ibidem congregandorum,[1] an Dominus Rex ad homagium suum faciendum in terra Franciæ debeat

The Prior advises the Archbishop as to his attitude in the matter of Ayermin's election to the See of Norwich, and alludes to a *tractatus* to be held at Stur' to settle the question of the King's homage for Gascony. The Archbishop and

[1] The scene of this *tractatus* has not been identified. A Parliament was held at Westminster in October, but this date is too distant to fulfil the description *in proximo*.

the Prior had not yet decided whether they should join the King's or the Queen's party.

personaliter transfretare, vel filius suus primogenitus, pro terra Wasconiæ cum pertinentiis ejusdem per homagium hujusmodi recipienda, difficile erit id quod melius est finaliter diffinire. Verumptamen, auditis rationibus cogentibus et motivis rationalibus tantorum virorum sapientum, discretorum, prudentum, et expertorum ibidem præsentium, facilius elicietur id quod melius videbitur expedire. Valeat et vigeat vestra paternatis reverenda in Christo qui vobis inspiret spiritum consilii et fortitudinis in tam arduis negotias pertrac tandis. Dat. Cant. die Assumptionis Beatæ Mariæ.

29 Sept. 1325.

155.—Commissio Ballivi in comitatibus Oxon. et Buks.

L. 141 *b*.

Commission of the steward of the manors of the Convent in Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire.

Henricus permissione divina, etc. dilecto sibi in Christo Jacobo Frysel, ballivo suo in comitatibus Oxon. et Buks., salutem in Domino. Quia Frater Johannes de Maldon, Custos maneriorum nostrorum in comitatibus prædictis, sæpius occupatur pro negotiis nostris in aliis comitatibus et locis remotis, quominus potuerit aliquando ad dicta maneria nostra cum opus fuerit declinare, assignavimus vos ad supervidendum maneria nostra de Halton, Rysebergh, Newenton, et Brutewell, cum omnibus pertinentiis suis, et omnes exitus grangiarum nostrarum in locis prædictis, ac etiam ad ordinandum omnes venditiones bladorum et aliorum bonorum nostrorum quæ vendi debent in maneriis nostris prædictis, quandocunque vobis mandaverimus; necnon ad providendum et ordinandum omnes emptiones animalium, reparationes domorum et molendinorum, et omnium aliorum necessariorum, prout videritis nobis melius expedire; et quod præmissa omnia exequamini, per vos et alios ydoneos quos ad hoc duxeritis deputare, communicato consilio prædicti Custodis nostri cum præsens fuerit in maneriis nostris prædictis. Præsentibus valituris quousque eas duxeri-

mus revocare. Data Cantuariæ die Sci. Michælis anno regni Regis Edwardi xix^no.

156.—De inquisitione capta de littera illa famosa: "Quicquid contigerit."

19 Oct. 1325.

L. 142 *a*.

The Prior's report to the Archbishop of the verdict of an inquisition taken in the Convent, to enquire into the mysterious, and apparently culpable, acts of Robert de Aledone, one of the monks.

Suo patri devotus filius id quod possit obedientiæ, reverentiæ, et honoris. Ecce pater, capta pridie inquisitione, virtute commissionis vestræ mihi præmissæ, de littera illa famosa quæ incipit: "Quicquid contigerit;" lxiiij. testes, jurati et singillatim examinati, dicunt concorditer et deponunt, quod vehementem et violentam præsumptionem et suspicionem habent quod Frater Robertus de Aledone prædictam litteram famosam fabricavit, et ipsam posuit super lectum Fratris Johannis de Maldon noctanter.

Requisiti: "Quid movet eos ad hujusmodi præsumptionem et suspicionem habendas de prædicto Roberto?" Respondent: "Quod de hoc est publica vox et fama." Item dicunt: "Quod paulo antequam prædicta littera famosa posita fuit super lectum prædicti Johannis, Dominus Archiepiscopus mandavit Capitulo Cantuariensi quod Frater Robertus de Aledone scripserat Domino Archiepiscopo quod totus Conventus, paucis exceptis, imposuit eidem Domino quod ipse habuit vitiosum ingressum in Ecclesiam Cantuariensem. Et similiter quod totus Conventus, paucis exceptis, provocationes, appellationes, et accusationes contra Dominum Archiepiscopum formavit, et in Capitulo fabricavit, ad confusionem perpetuam Domini Archiepiscopi, in Curia Romana. Et de hujusmodi vitioso ingressu, provocationibus, appellationibus, et accusationibus fit mentio in prædicta littera famosa. Et cito postea eadem littera famosa posita fuit noctanter super lectum prædicti Johannis." Item: "Antequam dicta littera famosa missa fuit Domino Archiepiscopo, prædictus Robertus

plures cedulas, propria manu scriptas, tradidit Fratri Johanni de Westgate conscribendas, qui omnes hujusmodi cedulas scripsit in una cedula; quam quidem cedulam sic scriptam multis fratribus ostendit inspiciendam. Quæ quidem scriptura de verbo ad verbum concordat cum illa littera famosa "*Quicquid contigerit.*" Item: dicunt, "quod prædictus Robertus coram multis publice fatebatur quod, xv° Kalendas Octobris proximo præterito, scripsit propria manu duas magnas cedulas famosas noctanter ad lectum suum; quæ quidem cedulæ manu ejusdem Roberti scriptæ, in modo dictandi, in incongruitate Latini, in orthographia, in inculcatione verborum, in obscuritate sententiæ, et in multis aliis concordant cum prædicta littera famosa."

Et prædictus Robertus requisitus: *Si super præmissis voluit se purgare?* Respondit: *Quod super hiis se purgare noluit, quia non potuit*, ut dicebat. Item: "Postquam vasa argentea de camera Prioris et de refectorio noctanter ablata fuerunt, præfatus Robertus publice fatebatur se habere unam massam metalli argenti de pondere x. librarum; et illam massam argenti pluribus fratribus monstravit, qui hoc idem testantur." Et idem Robertus requisitus et examinatus: *Qualiter hujusmodi massa argenti ad manus suas pervenit?* Respondit: *Quod Frater Johannes de Valoynes eandem massam argenti sibi tradidit.* Et idem Robertus requisitus: *Quid de eadem massa postea fecit?* Respondit: *Quod hujusmodi massam retradidit prædicto Johanni a quo ipsam recepit.* Et quia prædictus Johannes omnino negavit hujusmodi traditionem et receptionem massæ prædictæ, et super præmissis optulit se purgaturum; et, licet prædictus Robertus noluit nec potuit, ut dicebat, probare receptionem hujusmodi massæ de prædicto Johanne, nec eidem dictam massam retradisse, tamen indicta fuit prædicto Johanni purgatio sua septima manu super præmissis; qui statim publice et sollempniter super hiis se pur-

gavit. Et prædictus Robertus requisitus: *Si voluit probare quod hanc massam argenti legitime adquisivit?* Respondit præcise: *Quod non.* Et requisitus: *Si voluit se purgare*[1] *quod non adquisivit hanc massam argenti titulo injusto?* Respondit: *Quod super hoc se purgare noluit, quia non potuit,* ut dicebat. Item: Præfatus Robertus coram multis nuper publice fatebatur se habuisse unum rotulum album sine scriptura, sigillo communi Capituli sigillatum; et requisitus: *Qualiter hujusmodi rotulus albus ad manus suas pervenit?* Respondit: *Quod ad lectum Fratris Johannis de Gore de nocte accessit et hujusmodi rotulum album ibidem invenit et inde asportavit.* Et requisitus: *Quid postea fecit de eodem rotulo albo?* Respondit: *Quod illum rotulum reposuit super lectum prædicti Johannis ubi ipsum invenit.* Et idem Robertus requisitus: *Si prædictus Johannes de Gore hujusmodi rotulum album fabricavit, vel eidem consensit, vel aliquid inde scivit quando positus fuit super lectum suum?* Respondit præcise: *Quod non.* Et quia prædictus Robertus præfatum Johannem super præmissis totaliter excusavit, et Conventus nullam habuit suspicionem in hac parte de prædicto Johanne de Gore, ideo non fuit eidem Johanni indicta purgatio super præmissis. Item: lvij. fratres, jurati et singillatim examinati, de rotulo albo prædicto dicunt et concorditer deponunt: *Quod vehementem et violentam præsumptionem et suspicionem habent, quod dictus Robertus hujusmodi rotulum album fabricavit, et sigillum commune eidem rotulo dolose apponi procuravit.* Et requisitus prædictus Robertus: *Si de prædicto rotulo albo voluit se purgare?* Respondit: *Quod super hoc se purgare noluit, quia non potuit,* ut dicebat. Item: Prædictus Robertus requisitus et examinatus de quodam rotulo magno et longo famoso multis parvis sigillis sigillato, in quo continebantur multi articuli famosi, infamiam et scandalum multorum tangentes:

[1] *se purgare* altered to *probare* in MS.

Si hunc rotulum composuit seu habuit, vel hunc rotulum aliquando vidit, seu quibuscunque personis illum rotulum ostendit? Respondit ad omnia præcise: *Quod non.* Et statim septem fratres, super hoc requisiti et singillatim examinati, responderunt, et publice fatebantur: *Se vidisse rotulum prædictum famosum in manibus prædicti Roberti.* Et idem Robertus requisitus: *Si de hoc rotulo famoso voluit se purgare?* Respondit: *Quod super hoc se purgare noluit, quia non potuit,* ut dicebat. Item: præfatus Robertus vasa argentea, et alia vasa lignea argento deaurato et pretiosis lapidibus ornata, de refectorio et alibi nuper recepit, et eadem vasa contra voluntatem Conventus alienavit. Et requisitus: *Si hujusmodi vasa argentea et lignea alicui dedit, vendidit, impignoravit, seu in custodiam vel depositum tradidit cuicumque?* Respondit præcise: *Quod non.* Sed bene fatetur: *Quod hujusmodi vasa penes se habuit.*

Propter præmissa, de communi consensu et assensu Conventus, injuncta est pœnitentia prædicto Roberto, juxta observantias regulares. Ista pater vobis pronuntio, in eventu si forte labia dolosa et linguæ mendaces imposterum alia hiis contraria vobis suggerant sive scribant. Beneplacitum vestrum in hiis[1] et aliis insinuare vobis placeat mihi vestro. Valeat et vigeat vestra paternitas in prosperitate felici. Dat. Cant. xix^no^ die Octobris, anno Dni. M^o^CCC^o^XXV^to^.

10 Nov. 1325.

L. 128 *a*.

157.—De causa separationis Fratris R. de Aledone.

The Prior's report of the misdeeds mentioned in the previous letter.

Suo patri, devotus filius id quod possit obedientiæ, reverentiæ, et honoris. Favor ineptus multos extollit, et præcipue religiosos quorum dissolutiones intolerabiles conniventibus oculis dissimulantur, et eisdem inconsiderate permittitur impunitas licet tramitem religionis excedant. Tales siquidem secundum apostolum co-

[1] *aliis*, MS.

aptant sibi superiores auribus prurientes, et sub vana fiducia majorum a rectitudine vitæ declinant. Ecce pater reverende, virtute commissionis vestræ michi nuper transmissæ, pro diffamationibus Dominum nostrum Regem, et vos, ac Capitulum tangentibus, Fratrem Robertum de Aledone carcerali pœnæ subeundæ non decrevimus, prout vobis tortis labiis est suggestum; set quia sententia excommunicationis majoris est ligatus (a qua non petit, nec curat, absolvi, set in eadem pertinaciter perseverat animo indurato) de unanimo consilio et consensu Capituli, a communi fratrum consortio separatur, juxta canonicas sanctiones, ne una ovis morbida commaculet totum gregem. Item: quia dictus Robertus falsas litteras fabricavit, et sigillum commune Conventus dolose et nequiter usurpavit, et eisdem falsis litteris scienter apponi procuravit, in maximum periculum Ecclesiæ et Conventus. Item: quia dictus Robertus alias falsas litteras compilavit et multa sigilla incognita, nomine quorundam aliorum monachorum, eisdem litteris falsis apposuit, ipsis ignorantibus quorum nomine hujusmodi falsas litteras fabricavit, in scandalum et infamiam multorum. Item: quia, cito postquam vasa argentea de camera Prioris et de refectorio noctanter et furtive nuper sublata fuerunt, dictus Robertus ostendit pluribus personis unam magnam massam metalli argenti, et noluit probare quod hujusmodi massam argenti legitime adquisivit, nec voluit se purgare quod eadem massa argenti ad manus suas injusto titulo non pervenit. Item: quia, dictus Robertus plures libros magni pretii de libraria Conventus, et vasa argentea, et alia magni pretii de refectorio nuper illicite alienavit. Item: quia, idem Robertus fingit se frequenter infirmum, et callidis cautelis et dolosis quæ aerem inficiunt, urinæ suæ cerevisiam commiscendo, ut sic medicos et alios decipiat, si possit, de fuga sua vehementer timetur. Et ideo, de consilio et assensu

II. Tim. 4, 3.

omnium et singulorum de Capitulo, injuncta est eidem Roberto pœnitentiam pro commissis, sub debita custodia, juxta observantias regulares et ordinis instituta. Nec lateat vos, pater reverende, tota congregatio fratrum ipsum Robertum tanquam rebellem et incorrigibilem de monasterio totaliter expulsissent, nisi ipsos ab hujusmodi proposito retraxissem persuasionibus allectivis. Adhuc pater, siquis apud Dominum nostrum Regem vel alios quoscunque querimonias deposuerit, seu deponere voluerit, contra me occasione prædicta, totus Conventus paratus est et erit, coram quibuscunque quorum interest, in hac parte respondere de hujusmodi facto nostro communi. Et per consequens multa forte (quod absit) revelabuntur hactenus occultata, et dissolventur linguæ mutorum. Et utinam antequam hæc eveniant transeant dies mei. Valeat, &c. Dat. Cantuar. decimo die Novembris, anno Dni. M°CCC^mo XXV^to.

(1325.)

L. 102 *b.*

158.—Certificatio facta in visitatione.

The Prior's return to the Archbishop's summons to a visitation. This is not the usual form employed on such occasions, but a protest made by the Prior, against whom complaints have been secretly made to the Archbishop.

Pater reverende; protestor quod, quatenus possum et teneor, paratus sum in omnibus visitationem vestram subire, et monitionibus vestris, sicut de jure debeo, obedire; nec intendo præmissa, nec volo per aliqua per me dicenda, aliqualiter impedire. Quamplurima, ut prima facie michi videtur, sunt dicta seu proposita, quæ et qualia sunt, et ad quem finem tendunt, non valeo divinare. Revera quicquid dicatur michi non timeo, quia etiam de vestra provisione benigna paterna confido; ac firmiter credo, quod vos non intenditis ad status mei depositionem, amotionem, subtractionem, diminutionem, seu solitæ dispositionis meæ circa regulas et alia sublevationem, artationem, vel restrictionem, in aliqua procedere quovismodo; sed si aliqua inveniantur correctione digna, vultis quo poterunt cautius et secretius emendare . . . . . , absque qualicumque præjudicio status mei. Verump-

tamen in me fallat oblivio, et quia juris sum ignarus, licet, sicut asseritur, de facto meo forsan agatur, multa sunt proposita, et magnum sermonem continent, in responsionibus meis . . . . . de levi possem capi, decipi, et oblivisci, et errare contrarii respondendo quamquam de hoc non . . . . . .[1] Unde, si responsiones meæ fuissent cum deliberatione factæ seu emissæ, personæ meæ nec statui meo nec etiam po . . . . . ejusdem, Deo dante, aliqualiter præjudicaretur. Idcirco ne vestræ paternitati displiceat, protestationi præmissæ firmiter inhærendo, peto copiam compertorum seu detectorum, et diem competentem ad deliberandum circa præmissa; quia aliqua michi laterent quæ si essent præmissa, habita deliberatione diligenti, minime nocerent, nec, etiam oblique, michi nec statui meo in aliquo præjudicarent. Peto etiam nomina eorum per quos contra me est inquisitum.

159.—Libellus Domini Walteri Archiepiscopi contra capitulum Norwicense exhibitus in Curia Romana post visitationem sibi negatam. (1325.) L. 168 *a*.

Coram vobis venerabili viro Domino Jencelino de Cassanhis, utriusque juris professore, ac Domini Papæ capellano, et causæ infrascriptæ auditore, proponit procurator venerabilis patris Walteri Dei gratia Archiepiscopi Cantuariensis, procuratorii nomine, pro eodem, et dicit: quamvis canonica obedientia, subjectio, et reverentia, institutio, et destitutio, visitatio quoque, correctio, reformatio, et punitio criminum, delictorum, et excessuum quorumcunque, pœnitentiæ, sacramentorum omnium quæ ab episcopo recipienda sunt collatio, censura ecclesiastica, et insuper causarum omnium ad

The *libel* of the Archbishop, who during the vacancy of the See of Norwich has attempted to make (by his Commissary) a visitation of that diocese and

[1] In these parts the MS. is destroyed by decay.

has been repelled by the Chapter of the Cathedral church, claiming to be *custodes spiritualitatis sede vacante.*

forum ecclesiasticum pertinentium, et alia omnimoda jurisdictio et potestas ecclesiastica, de jure vel consuetudine, debita Episcopo Norwycensi, et pertinens ad Episcopum Norwycensem sede episcopali Norwycensi (plena),[1] et ad Capitulum Norwycense pertineret, in Ecclesia, civitate, et diœcesi Norwycensibus, vacante, ut in aliis ecclesiis, civitatibus, et diœcesibus provinciæ Cantuariensis, qui fuit pro tempore et est solum et insolidum, absque requisitione consilii vel consensus Capituli Cantuariensis Ecclesiæ vel Norwycensis, executus, et eorum omnium et singulorum liberum exercitium, per se et alios, pertineret atque pertineat, etiam de consuetudine, a tempore et per tempus x., xx., xxx., xl., et lx. annorum, et etiam cujus principium hominum excessit memoriam, observata, dictusque Archiepiscopus eisdem temporibus et per tempora ipsa, vacantibus, eodem tempore vel diversis, Ecclesia Norwycensi et aliis cathedralibus supradictis, præmissa omnia et singula in ecclesiis, civitatibus, et diœcesibus memoratis exercuerit, exercere consuevit, et in possessione, vel quasi-possessione exercendi fuerit, per se et alios, et etiam existat Dominus Walterus Archiepiscopus præfatus, jure et nomine Ecclesiæ Cantuariensis; hocque ipsi, et Capitulum Norwycense, ac abbates, prælati, rectores, beneficiati clerici, clerus, et populus, civitatis et diœcesis Norwycensis, necnon alii episcopi, capitula, abbates, prælati, rectores, beneficiati clerici, clerus, et populus, provinciæ supradictæ, verbo et facto recognoverunt: tamen Prior et Capitulum prælibatæ Ecclesiæ Norwycensis, et quidam alii in hac parte adhærentes eisdem, ipsa Ecclesia ultimo vacante, etiam postquam ipsi Prior et Capitulum prædicta verbo et facto recognoverant, et in præmissis paruerant Domino Archiepiscopo supradicto, ipsum Dominum Archiepiscopum, et officiales et ministros suos, ad hujusmodi jurisdictionem, visitationem, et correctionem, et punitionem, in

[1] *plena*, om. MS.

civitate et diœcesi Norwycensibus exercendas et faciendas positos, et ea exercentes, in præmissis molestarunt, molestari et perturbari fecerunt et procurarunt, et molestationem factam nomine suo ratam habuerunt et acceptam, et similia facere et procurare in futurum comminati sunt, et pupplice protestati, et comminantur, et protestantur indebite et injuste. Quare petit procurator prædictus, nomine quo supra, pronuntiari et declarari hujusmodi jurisdictionem, visitationem, correctionem, et punitionem in prædictis ecclesia, civitate, et diœcesi Norwycensibus, et personis consistentibus in eisdem, ad ipsum Dominum Cantuariensem Archiepiscopum pertinuisse et pertinere, et ipsum in possessione, vel quasi, talia faciendi et exercendi fuisse et esse, et ea tuenda fore, decerni; et ipsum Priorem et Capitulum et sibi adhærentes a molestatione (et) perturbatione compesci; et eisdem super hiis silentium imponi imperpetuum; et interesse dampnis et expensis, quæ et quas dictus Dominus Archiepiscopus per hujusmodi molestationem (et) perturbationem indebitas sustinuit, condempnari, et ulterius fieri in præmissis, et ea contingentibus, emergentibus, et dependentibus ab eisdem, quod est justum. Et protestatur idem etiam procurator de dampnis et expensis faciendis; præmissa ponit et petit, conjunctim seu divisim, omni modo et forma quibus melius potest, salvo jure addendi, &c.

160.—Libellus Capituli Norwycensis contra Dominum Walterum Archiepiscopum exhibitus in Curia Romana pro visitatione sibi negata. (1325.) L. 168 *b*.

Coram vobis venerabili viro Domino Gencelino de Cassanhis, utriusque juris professore, Domini Papæ capellano, et auditore in primo gradu, proponit Robertus de Bytteryng procurator religiosorum virorum Prioris et Capituli Norwycensium, ac religiosorum virorum Prioris et Conventus Sanctæ Fidis de Horsham, The *libel* of the Chapter of Norwich insinuated (as was that of the Archbishop)

before the *Auditor Causarum* of the Pope, in the matter of Archbishop Raynold's attempted visitation of the diocese of Norwich, *sede vacante.*

et Rogerii de Breus rectoris ecclesiæ de Heydon, Norwycensis diœcesis, contra venerabilem patrem Dominum Walterum Archiepiscopum Cantuariensem, et personam pro ipso venientem legitime, et dicit, quod, Ecclesia Norwycensi prædicta nuper vacante, dictus Dominus Archiepiscopus, intentus ad usurpationem jurisdictionis Ecclesiæ suæ pertinentis et solitæ ad Episcopum, ipso Episcopo in rebus humanis agente, quæ jurisdictio ipsi Capitulo competiit, competere[1] consuevit, et etiam de jure competiit tempore vacationis Ecclesiæ ejusdem, in civitate et diœcesi Norwycensibus, fuitque dictum Capitulum in possessione, et quasi, jurisdictionem hujusmodi notorie et libere exercendi, Ecclesia ipsa vacante, a tempore et per tempus cujus contrarii memoria non existit, et esset tempore infrascriptæ jurisdictionis, Magistrum Johannem de Baddesle correctorem generalem injuriose, et de facto dumtaxat, constituit eundem officialem et custodem spiritualitatis in civitate et diœcesi eisdem, nulla legitima causa præcedente. Qui magister Johannes prætextu constitutionum hujusmodi jurisdictionem Episcopo Norwycensi, et sede Norwycensi vacante prædicto Capitulo, competentem, tenere, ac per suam et dicti Archiepiscopi potentiam, ipsoque Archiepiscopo ea fieri mandante, et nomine suo facta rata habente, usurpare visus fuit, usurpavit, exercuit de facto tamen in civitate et diœcesi prædictis, per hoc et alia, multipliciter et diversimodo injurias, gravamina, et dampna quam plurima irrogando Ecclesiæ et Capitulo prælibatis, et hiis quorum dictus Robertus procurator existit, necnon clero et populo Norwycensibus, et dictum Capitulum, dicta possessione et quasi, quantum in dictis Domino Archiepiscopo et officiali fuit, temere spoliando seu spoliare conando. Dicit etiam procurator prædictus, quod prædictus Archiepiscopus cum ad visitandum suam provinciam processisset, visitatis, juxta ordinem Ecclesiæ, civitate et diœcesi Norwycensibus, suæ provinciæ parte reliqua

[1] *competitione*, MS.

minime visitata, ad Ecclesiam Norwycensem prædictam, tunc vacantem, et civitatem et diœcesim Norwycenses prædictas visitaturus, per se et alios, rediit iterato, absque aliqua legitima causa, et inibi, per se et alios, visitavit, in juris offensam, et dictæ Ecclesiæ, Prioris et Capituli, et aliorum quorum dictus Robertus procurator existit, injuriam et gravamen. Petit igitur procurator prædictus, per vos dominum Auditorem pronuntiari, decerni, et declarari, jurisdictionem Episcopo Norwycensi pro tempore competentem, pertinuisse ad Priorem et Capitulum supradictos, pro tempore quo eandem Ecclesiam in futurum vacare contigerit, dictoque Archiepiscopo non licuisse nec licere, tempore vacationis dictæ Ecclesiæ Norwycensis, correctorem constituere generalem, aut officialem, et custodem spiritualitatis constituere in civitate et diœcesi Norwycensibus, qui aliquam jurisdictionem episcopalem, et solitam episcopo Norwycensi dum vivit competere, exerceat, præsertim prædictis Priore[1] et Capitulo in nulla negligentia constitutis; et ipsi Archiepiscopo, super prædictis, imponi perpetuum silentium, et sibi inhiberi ne de cetero talia attemptare præsumat, dictumque Capitulum ad solitam possessionem et quasi in prædictis et circa prædicta restitui, quatenus per prædicta et eorum occasione possit dici quomodolibet spoliatum. Petit etiam pronuntiari et decerni gesta et facta per dictum Magistrum Johannem de Baddesle temeraria et injuriosa fuisse, et nullius efficaciæ et momenti extitisse. Insuper petit dictus procurator, pronuntiari atque decerni, per dictum Archiepiscopum perperam et contra jura fuisse attemptatum, actum, et gestum, in hoc, quod, cum ad visitandum suam provinciam processisset, visitatis, juxta ordinem Ecclesiæ, civitate et diœcesi Norwycensibus, suæ provinciæ parte residua minime visitata, ad ecclesiam, civitatem, et diœcesim Norwycenses visitaturus, per se et alios, rediit iterato,

[1] *Priori*, MS.

et inibi, per se et alios, visitavit, in juris offensam, et dictæ ecclesiæ Norwycensis injuriam et gravamen, ipsique Archiepiscopo non licuisse nec licere de cetero taliter visitare, præsumat; ipsumque Archiepiscopum condempnari, et condempnatum compelli ad satisfactionem prædictis quorum dictus Robertus procurator existit, de dampnis supradictis; ac in præmissis omnibus et singulis fieri breviter, summarie, et

(1325.)
L. 142 *b*.

161.—LITTERA DIRECTA JOHANNI DE DENE PRO VINIS FRANCIÆ.

The Prior's agent in Paris is directed to recover a letter of the King of France (ordering the delivery of the *Wine of St. Thomas*), to collect arrears of the wine, and to appoint a steward to manage the vineyards of the Convent at Triel and St. Brice.

A son bien ame en Dieu Johan de Dene, Henri Priour, etc. Pur ceo qe James de Bourne, qi Dieux assoille, nadgeres purchassa une lettre patente del Roi de France, et bailla cele lettre a Robert de Longemel avant sa mort, nous vous prioms qe vous diez a la femme le dit Robert, qe ele vous baille cele lettre patente. Et par cele lettre vous purrez demander a Provost, et a receyvours le Roi, de Paris les deners qe le Roi nous deyt pur les defautes de noz vins de Pessi de cest an. Et facez vendre noz vins de Triel et de Saint Brice de cest an a meux qe vous purrez. Et parlez a Monsire Johan de Lange, et entre vous deaux purveez nous ascun home a Paris, qe puisse prendre garde de noz vins [1] et de noz mesons a Triel et a Saint Brice, par ceo qe Johan Langlois ad moult afaire de autres grantz busoignes, et Pierres Galeys nest pas profitable pur nous. Et mandez nous le noun de cely procuratour qe vous nous avez purveu, et nous luy enverroms une procuracie.

(1325.)
L. 143 *a*.

162.—LITTERA DIRECTA DOMINO JOHANNI LANGE PRO VINIS FRANCIÆ.

On the same subject.

A monsire Johan Lange, etc. Nous vous mercioms moult de vostre conseil et de vostre aide, qe vous nous avez fait pur les vins Saint Thomas en France

[1] *vignes ?*

de plano, sine strepitu et figura judicii, juxta commissionem vobis factam, justiciæ complementum. Et prædicta petit procurator prædictus omni juris modo et causa quibus melius potest, cum expensis factis et faciendis, salvo jure addendi et minuendi et cetera.[1]

161.

To his well beloved in God, John de Dene, Henry Prior, etc. Whereas James de Bourne, whom God absolve, formerly procured a letter patent from the King of France, and handed that letter to Robert de Lonjumeau before his death, we beg you to tell the wife of the said Robert, to give you this letter patent. And by virtue of this letter you will be able to demand from the Provost and from the Receivers of the King at Paris, the money which the King owes us for the deficiencies of our wines of Poissy for the present year. And cause our wines at Triel and at St. Brice of this year to be sold the best bargain you can. And speak to Master John de Lange, and between you both provide us with a man at Paris who can take charge of our wines [2] and houses at Triel and at St. Brice, for John L'Anglais is much occupied in other important affairs, and Peter Galais is not efficient for us. And send us the name of this agent whom you shall have provided, and we will forward a power of attorney to him.

162.

To Master John Lange, &c. We thank you much for your advice and for your assistance which you have often aforetime given us in the matter of the wines of

[1] These two *libels* were evidently copied into the register by a clerk who, being unable to follow the involved phraseology, omitted several important words.

[2] *vineyards?*

sovent avant ces houres. Et vous prioms qe vous plese aider et conseiller a nostre cher en Dieu Johan de Dene nostre procuratour, tant come il est en France pur procurer et purchacer les deners qe le Roi de France nous deyt, pur la defaute de noz vins qe nous deussoms aver a Pessi cet an, solum ceo qe il(s) sont prises devant le bailiff le Roi de Pessi par serment de bones gentz.

13 Dec. (1325.)

L. 143 *a*.

The Chapter of Christ Church will not oppose any proposition as to oblations, etc. entered into between the Austin Friars of Canterbury and the Rector of St. George's parish.

163.—De Fratribus ordinis Sci. Augustini et de Rectore Sci. Georgii.

Salutem. Si Fratres ordinis Sci. Augustini Cantuariæ velint componere realiter cum Rectore ecclesiæ parochialis Sci. Georgii in Cantuaria, quæ de patronatu nostro existit, super decimis, primitiis, et oblationibus, ac aliis quæ a laicis solent clericis exhiberi, de messuagio quæ dicti Fratres nunc tenent infra limites parochiæ dictæ ecclesiæ Sci. Georgii, æquanimiter tolerabimus; dumtamen ordinarii interveniat auctoritas et consensus. Valete. Datum Cantuariæ XIIJ^mo^ die Decembris.

1 Dec. 1325.

L. 143 *a*.

The monk whose case is reported on p. 147. desires to exchange his Benedictine

163*a*.—De mutatione habitus Roberti de Aledon.

Suo patri &c. Ecce pater reverende Fr . . . . . [1] quærit angulos usquequaque. Pridie vero petebat quod possit in claustro cum aliis fratribus residere; nunc autem petit, quod possit in infirmitorio facere pœnitentiam sibi injunctam; vel saltem, istis sibi negatis, quod possit ad habitum et ordinem Fratrum Prædicatorum Oxoniæ se transferre. Verum quia ad diversitatem corporum sequitur diversitas voluntatum, diversi diversa

[1] The portion of paper upon which the name was written has been neatly cut out with a sharp knife.

St. Thomas in France. And we pray you that you will please to aid and advise our beloved-in-God John de Dene, our Attorney, as long as he is in France for the purpose of collecting and obtaining the money that the King of France owes us on account of the deficiency of our wines, which we ought to have had at Poissy this year, according as they are appraised before the Bailiff of the King at Poissy, by the oaths of lawful men.

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sentiunt super præmissis. Quibusdam vero fratribus multum placeret quod dictus Robertus ad hunc habitum et ordinem Fratrum perpetuo se transferret; alii vero fratres aliter sentiunt in hac parte; videlicet, quia dictus Robertus non petit simpliciter et absolute, sed conditionaliter et disjunctive, quod possit ad hujusmodi habitum et ordinem transvolare, videtur ipsis quod eidem Roberto super præmissis non est aliqualiter annuendum. Aliis vero fratribus non paucis videtur, quod, licet dictus Robertus alium habitum et ordinem arctiorem assumeret, poterit tamen si voluerit infra annum hujusmodi habitum et ordinem sibi assumptos dimittere, et ad primum monasterium redire, et sic succedent scandala scandalis ex sequela prædictorum; et erit novissimus error pejor priore. Et quia in dubium vertitur apud multos si præfatus Robertus habitum et ordinem suum hiis diebus magis solito mutare desiderat ex pura devotione, vel temeritate seu levitate, vel alia quavis occasione seu colore quæsito; de communi consensu Conventus deliberatum est super hujusmodi dubio vos consulere juxta canonicas sanctiones. Placeat igitur paternitati vestræ, per litteras vestras et harum bajulum, significare, Conventui vel mihi vestro, quid super hujusmodi dubitatione consultius et salubrius sit agendum. Valeat et vigeat vestra paternitas in prosperitate felici. Dat. Cant. primo die Decembris anno Dni, MCCCXXV^to^.

habit for that of the Dominican Friars, but the Convent being divided in opinion as to his motives, the Prior consults the Archbishop.

(1325.)

L. 143 *b*.

164.—De negotio Fratris R. de Aledone.

The Prior informs the Archbishop that he has put one of the monks to penance. Suspecting that false rumours may have got about concerning this scandal, he asks the Archbishop to speak in his favour if he hears the matter discussed.

Salutz. Trescher Sire par ceo qe un de noz moignes ad mespris contre Dieu, et contre sa profession, et contre chescun estat de sainte religion, il est mis a penance, solum le ordre et la reule de Seynt Beneyt, pur salvacion de sa alme pur divers trespas qe sont notables et de grant charge. Et pur ceo, trescher Sire, nous vous prioms fiablement, qe si vous enoyez riens parler de ceste busoigne, vous plese excuser nous, pur les enchesons suysdites, contre totes gentz qe vous enorrez parler de ceste busoigne. Salutz.

165.—Responsio ad consultationem amici super variis articulis.

Christmas 1325.

L. 128 *b*.

The Prior congratulates the Archbishop on his escape from sickness, and gives him vague advice as to his conduct in political matters.

Suo patri devotus filius gloriam illam quam canebant cives angelici, Christo nato. Pro hiis quæ nuper michi vestri gratia literatorie communicastis vobis refero grates multas, et eo ampliores, quia ipso die quo hujusmodi litteras vestras recepi auribus meis dolenter insonuit ventus urens, quod omnium Conditor vos subtraxerat ab hac luce. Benedictus medicus qui ita repente resuscitavit defunctum. Adhuc pater, de hostili et violenta invasione regni Angliæ ab alienigenis, ut dicitur, comminata, videtur non esse multum timenda, quia causam non habent nec etiam animositates aggrediendi talia, quicquid dicant hinc inde currentes. Set mos est Gallicorum terrorem et timorem frequentius pugno aliis incutere, quam gladios evaginare, et siquis minimum digitum viderit cruentatum, statim caput suum æstimat amputatum. Hujusmodi vero aggressio inopinata in maximum cederet Domino summo Pontifici opprobrium et manifestum contemptum; qui inter duos reges et regna, de plenitudine potestatis, treugas indixit; et pro pace

164.—Very dear Lord, forasmuch as one of our monks has transgressed against God and his profession, and against every grade of holy religion, he is put to penance in accordance with the order and rule of Saint Benedict, for the salvation of his soul, owing to divers trespasses which are notable and weighty. And, therefore, very dear Lord, we confidently pray you that, if you hear anything said about this affair, for the reasons above rehearsed, you will make excuses for us against all manner of men whom you hear speak of this matter. Farewell.

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reformanda inter eosdem magno tempore sollicitus extitit et existit. Licet enim aliqua persona singularis regni Angliæ, forte sine culpa et sine causa, quibusdam non complaceat in præsenti, cum nullus in tota mundi machina omnibus ac singulis et semper valeat complacere, nulla tamen (benedictus Auctor pacis et Amator) contra Dominum nostrum Regem Angliæ, seu populum sibi subjectum, realis vel personalis movetur quæstio calumpniosa, prout litteræ Dominæ Reginæ Angliæ vobis nuper transmissæ plenius contestantur. Sane de reliquiis sanctorum corporum in ecclesia vestra Cantuariensi quiescentium curam et continuam custodiam habet Ille qui ipsorum animas in loco lucis, quietis, et gloriæ collocavit, quousque sibi placuerit ipsas animas et corpora misericorditer combinare; fiducialiter etiam speratur quod Christus sponsam suam præ cæteris a cunctis molestis eventibus præservabit. Ceterum, pie pater et pastor, pro benevolentia vestra, vobis cœlitus inspirata, quod Capitulo vestro aliquid honorificum et placabile faciatis, terram vestram de Caldecote juxta Cantuariam cum nemore adjacenti et aliis pertinentiis suis Priori et Capitulo

appropriando, unde ipsos ex futuris commodis habeatis astrictos ad orandum et jugiter offerendum pro vobis ipsi Deo hostias sacrificii salutaris, retribuat vobis Dominator cœli et terræ gratiam in præsenti et gloriam in futuro. Adventus vero vester ad ecclesiam vestram Cantuariensem omnibus et singulis filiis vestris erit gratissimus et acceptus, vobisque intercedentibus sanctis patribus prædecessoribus vestris, meritorius et consolatorius ut speratur. Valeat et vigeat dominus meus pater et pastor in prosperitate felici. Dat. Cantuar. Die Natalis Domini, anno ejusdem M°CCC^mo XXV^to.

(1325.)

L. 115 *b*.

166.—Consultatio de constitutione illa "debent superioribus," de officio ordinarii.

A case of ordinary jurisdiction submitted to counsel.

Suo suus salutem quam sibi. Sciatis quod juris periti in Anglia diversimode sentiunt de constitutione novella Bonifaciana de officio ordinarii, quæ sic incipit: "Debent superioribus etc." Et quidam dicunt quod jus speciale est et locale, et dumtaxat se extendit ad episcopum et capitulum Dunolmensem tempore visitacionis, pro quibus specialiter edita fuit. Alii dicunt quod jus commune est, et se extendit ad omnes cathedrales conventuales et collegiatas ecclesias visitandas, et tamen non incorporatur in vj^to libro nec in vij^mo, et ideo vestram dilectionem rogamus quatinus, per proximum ad partes nostras venturum, nos certificare velitis si Curia Romana teneat constitutionem predictam pro jure speciali et locali, vel pro jure communi.

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5 Feb. (1326.)

L. 129 *a*.

168.—De venatoribus et canibus Dominæ Isabellæ Reginæ.

The Prior complains of the expense of the keep of

Salutz. Sachez que les venours ma Dame la Royne et tote sa meute des chens sont demorrez ovesqe moi a Canterbirs puis qe Ma Dame la Roigne passa la mer, et uncore demoerent, a grant charge de moi et

Adhuc sciatis quod Episcopi Wyntoniensis, Lincolniensis, Herefordensis, et Landavensis, in suis diocesibus seminant atque metunt, sed manus ad aratrum temporalium non apponunt.

167.—Acquietancia Domini W(alteri) Archiepiscopi de xl. marcis sibi solutis, juxta formam compositionis de libertatibus, usque ad festum Pascha anno regni Regis Edwardi xviij°, ipso termino computato.[1]

10 Jan 1326.

L. 128 *b*.

Universis pateat etc. nos Walterus permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus etc., recepimus a dilectis nobis in Xpo. filiis Priore et Capitulo Ecclesiæ nostræ Cantuariensis centum et sexaginta libras sterlingorum, in quibus nobis tenebantur juxta formam compositionis de libertatibus dudum editæ, videlicet pro termino Sci. Michaelis et Pascha annis regni Regis Edwardi filii Regis Edwardi xij°, xiij°, xiiij°, xv°, xvj°, et xvij°, et pro eisdem terminis Sci. Michaelis et Pascha anno regni Regis ejusdem xviij°, xxvj libras xiij solidos iiij denarios. In cujus etc. Dat. apud Otteford x^mo^. die Januarii anno M°CCC^mo^ XXV^to^.

The Archbishop's receipt for dues paid to him by the Convent, and a memorandum of dues paid by him to the Convent.

Consimilem acquietanciam Dominus Archiepiscopus habet de nobis de arreragiis viij librarum de Raculver ab ipso recepto de termino Pascha pro eisdem annis supradictis, sub dato, Cantuar. xij° die Januarii anno Dni M°CCC^mo^XXV^to^.

168.

Greeting. Know that the huntsmen of our Lady the Queen, and all her pack of hounds have remained with me at Canterbury ever since the time when our Lady

[1] It will be understood that the balance actually paid in this transaction was forty marks; being the difference between a hundred and eighty-six pounds thilteen and fourpence due to the Abp. and the accumulated arrears of an annual pension of eight pounds due from him.

the Queen's pack of hounds left in his charge during her absence in France. The letter was sent to some one about the Court, probably J. de Dene.

de mon Covent, qar il prennent chescune semaigne un quartier de furment pur lur sustenance. Et par ceo qe Monsire Robert de Stanton, Seneschal del hostel Ma Dame la Royne, me dit nadgeres quant il vint de France qe Ma Dame la Royne quant il prist son conge de luy, le commanda de hoster toutz ces venours et tote sa meute de chens qi furent demorre ovesqe moi a Canterbirs, et qe il les donast laa ou il voleit a ses amis a sa volonte, sicome il me dit; nepurquant uncore sont demorre ove moi a grant charge de moi et de mon Covent; jeo vous prie fiablement qe vous parlez et priez a Monsire Hugh le Despenser le fitz, ou a aucun autre ami de la Court, qe luy plese monstrer a nostre Seignur le Roy ceste chose, et saver de luy sa volonte ceo qe luy plest qe jeo face de les venours et de les chens Ma Dame. Et mandez moi par le portour de ceste lettre aucunes bones noveles de ceste chose, et de vostre sante. Donez a Canterbirs le quint jour de Feverer.

11 Feb. 1326.

169.—Petitio Conventus de ecclesia de Ayshe.

L. 129 *b*.

The Prior asks for the King's licence for acquiring the appropriation to the Convent of the Church of Ash Bocking, the advowson of which already belongs to them.

A lur trescher Seignur Sire Edward par la grace de Dieu, etc. ses chapeleins Henri Priour et le Covent del Esglise de Canterbire salutz, et la saunte qe toutz jours dure. Trescher Seignur, pur ceo qe nous avoms le avoeson del esglise de Ayshe en levesche de Northwyz, qi est taxe a xv. marcs a la verrie value, nous prioms et requeroms devoutement vostre reale hautesse qe, pur le honur et lamour de Dieu et de Saint Thomas, vous plese doner nous conge de purchacer le appropriacion de cele esglise, en aide de la sustenance de sept prestres, qe nous avoms ordine pur toutz jours chanter matines et messes pur vous, et pur voz ancestres, et vos heirs, et pur totes almes Christienes en nostre novele chapele, qi est funde en le noun de Nostre

the Queen went over sea, and they still remain at the great charge of myself and of my Convent, for every week they consume a quarter of wheat for their maintenance. Now seeing that Master Robert de Stanton, Steward of the Household to our Lady the Queen, told me formerly when he came from France that our Lady the Queen, when she took leave of him, commanded him to remove all the huntsmen and all her pack of hounds who remained with me at Canterbury, and that he should bestow them wherever he pleased among his friends at his own free will, as he told me; nevertheless still they have remained here at a great cost to me and my Convent; I pray you heartily that you will speak to, and beseech Sir Hugh le Despenser the younger, or some other friend about the Court, that he will please to explain this matter to the King, and ascertain his wishes as to what he may please that I shall do with these huntsmen and dogs of my Lady. And by the bearer of this letter, send me some good tidings about this affair and about your own welfare. Given at Canterbury the 5th day of February.

169.

To their well beloved Lord, the Lord Edward, by the grace of God, &c., his chaplains, Henry Prior, and the Convent of the Church of Canterbury, greeting, and the salvation which endures for ever. Very dear Lord, whereas we own the advowson of the church of Ayssh, in the diocese of Norwich, which is assessed at fifteen marcs after the true value, we devoutly pray and request your Royal Highness, that, for the honour and love of God and of Saint Thomas, you will be pleased to grant us licence to acquire the appropriation of this church, in aid of the maintenance of seven priests, whom we have established for ever to sing matins and masses for you, and for your ancesters, and your heirs, and for all Christian souls in our new chapel, which is founded in the name

Dame et de Saint Thomas pres de nostre porte a Canterbire. A Dieu Sire, qi vous donit longe vie et bone et la joye perdurable. Donez en nostre Chapitle le xj^{m} jour de Feverer, lan de grace M^{l}CCCXXV.

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26 Feb. 1326.

170.—De negotio ecclesiæ de Aysshe Norwycensis diœcesis.

L. 129 *b*.

The Prior thanks and instructs his attorney acting for him in the matter of the appropriation of Ash Rocking.

Salutem. Industriam vestram et diligentiam laboriosam pro negotiis nostris et Ecclesiæ nostræ Curia Domini Regis et alibi impensas, et maxime pro negotio appropriationis ecclesiæ de Aysse, Norwycensis diœcesis, merito commendamus; et speramus fiducialiter quod sicut hujusmodi negotia utiliter incepistis effectualiter consummabitis, Domino cooperante, nec propter comminationes Episcopi Norwycensis desistatis, quin corporalem possessionem, nomine nostro et Ecclesiæ nostræ, prædictæ ecclesiæ de Aysse, in forma debita, apprehendatis, juxta consilium jurisperitorum amicorum vestrorum in partibus illis, quos ad consilium vestrum invitari faciatis in hac parte, et eisdem satisfaciatis rationabiliter pro suo consilio et labore. Et bene volumus quod respiciatis Dominum Episcopum Norwycensem ad elemosinam suam, de valore dictæ ecclesie de Aysse unius anni, secundum ultimam taxationem, propter primas fructus quos percipit de beneficiis

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6 March (1326.)

171.—De venatoribus et canibus Dominæ Reginæ.

L. 144 *a*.

The Prior complains to H. le Despenser the younger

A noble home et son trescher ami Sire Hugh le Despenser, son chapelein Henri, Priour del Esglise de Canterbirs, salutz, et la joye perdurable. Treschier Sire, voillez saver qe tuz les venours et la mute des chens Ma Dame la Roigne sont demorre ovesque moi a Canterbirs tut cest an, puis qe Ma Dame la Roigne

of Our Lady and of St. Thomas, near our (court) gate at Canterbury. God be with you, Sire, and may He give you a good and long life and joy eternal. Given in our Chapter House the 11th day of February, in the year of grace 1325.

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vacantibus in sua diœcesi de primo anno. Nec recedatis de partibus illis quousque possessionem corporalem habueritis ecclesiæ supradictæ. Et in recessu de partibus illis substituatis ibidem, virtute procuratorii vestri, unum procuratorem clericum, ad custodiendum dictam ecclesiam cum omnibus pertinentiis suis, qui moram continuam faciat sumptibus nostris in eadem ecclesia, et de proventibus ejusdem ecclesiæ medio tempore nobis respondeat, quousque aliud ordinaverimus super præmissis. Et provideatis de aliqua ydonea persona, vobis nota, ad vicariam dictæ ecclesiæ Norwycensi Episcopo præsentanda ista vice; et de nomine ipsius personæ ad vicariam præsentandæ nos certificetis sine mora. Et provideatis de aliquo presbytero honestæ conversationis qui possit eidem ecclesiæ de Aysse sufficienter deservire interim in divinis, sumptibus nostris, quousque vicarius noster præsentandus in eadem vicaria fuerit institutus, et in corporalem possessionem inductus. Valeat sicut valere vellemus. Dat. Cantuar. xxvj^to^ die Februari, anno Dni. M^o^CCC^mo^XXV^to^.

171.

To his noble and well-beloved friend, Sir Hugh le Despenser, his chaplain, Henry, Prior of the Church of Canterbury, greeting, and eternal joy. Very dear Sire, please it you to understand that all the huntsmen and the pack of hounds of my Lady the Queen have remained with me at Canterbury all this year, ever since my Lady

of the expense caused to him by the keep of the Queen's pack of hounds.

passa la mer, et oncore demoerent, a grant charge de moi et de mon Covent; et Ma Dame la Royne comanda a Sire Robert de Stanton, Seneschal de son hostel, quant il prist son conge de Ma Dame de aler en Engleterre a la feste de Noel proschein passe, qe il deust remuer et hoster tuz ses venours, et doner tuz ses chens a diverses gentz laa ou il voleit, sicome Sire Robert meismes dit a moi a Canterbirs quant il vint da Ma Dame. Et par ceo qe le dit Sire Robert riens ne ad fait endroit de ceste chose, sicome Ma Dame la Royne le comanda a faire, et les venours et les chens demorent encore ovesqe nous a Canterbirs; trescher Sire et ami, jeo vous prie et require devoutement, qe il vous plese saver la volente nostre Seignur le Roy, ceo qe luy plest qe soit fait de ceste chose, et sa volente et vostre voillez mander a moi come a celuy qe est tout vostre. Donez a Canterbirs le vj^{m} jour de Marz.

6 Mar. (1326.)

L. 144 *a*.

A letter of directions to the Prior's agent at Court, in which the foregoing letter was enclosed.

172.—Item de eodem.

A Johan de Dene, saluz. Nous avoms prie par noz lettres a nostre cher ami Sire Hughe le Despenser, qe luy plese saver la volonte nostre Seignur le Roi, ceo qe luy plest qe soit fait de les venours et des chens Ma Dame la Royne, qi sont demorre ovesqe nous a Canterbirs tout cest an, pus Ma Dame la Royne passa la mer, sicome bien le savez, a grant charge de nous et de nostre Covent; et qe le dit Sire Hugh nous mande la volente nostre Seignur le Roi, et sa volente demeigne, endroit de ceste chose. Et pur ceo nous vous prioms qe vous baillez noz lettres a dit Sir Hugh, en leu et temps convenable par ceo qe il est moult occupe de autres busoignes, et nous remandez par le portour de ceste lettre la volente nostre Seignur le Roi et le dit Sire Hugh endroit de ceste chose. A Dieu qi vous garde. Donez a Canterbire le vj^{m} jour de Marz.

the Queen went over sea, and they still remain, to the great cost of me and of my Convent; and my Lady the Queen commanded Sir Robert de Stanton, steward of her household, when he took leave of my Lady to return to England at Christmas last past, that he should remove and take away all her huntsmen, and bestow all her hounds among divers people wherever he pleased, as Sir Robert himself told me at Canterbury when he came from my Lady. Now, because the said Sir Robert has done nothing in this matter, as my Lady the Queen commanded him to do, and the huntsmen and hounds still remain with us at Canterbury, very dear Sire, I pray and devoutly request that it may please you to ascertain the will of our Lord the King, as to what he may please shall be done in this matter, and to send his will and yours to me, as to one who is entirely yours. Given at Canterbury the 6th day of March.

172.

To John de Dene, greeting. We have, by our letters, begged our dear friend Sir Hugh le Despenser that he will please to ascertain the wishes of our Lord the King, that is to say what he desires shall be done with the huntsmen and hounds of my Lady the Queen, which have remained with us at Canterbury all this year, ever since my Lady the Queen went over sea, as well you know, at the great charge of us and of our Convent; and that the said Sir Hugh will send us word of the will of our Lord the King, and his own will about this matter. And, therefore, we pray you to hand our letters to the said Sir Hugh, at a convenient time and place seeing that he is fully occupied with other affairs, and send us word, by the bearer of this letter, of the will of our Lord the King and of the said Sir Hugh about this matter. God be with you and keep you. Given at Canterbury the 6th day of March.

12 Mar. (1326.)

173.—De adventu Dominæ Reginæ et Ducis Aquitaniæ.

L. 144 *a*. The Prior's ideas of the political prospect, and his advice to the Archbishop as to his manner of meeting the Queen on her return from France. The letter was written on 12th March, and the Queen landed in September.

Salutem et spiritum fortitudinis in timore. Prælati, nuntii solempnes Domini Papæ, in Franciam redierunt et in Angliam, ut dicitur, in proximo sunt venturi; et, sicut referunt de partibus Franciæ venientes, Dominus Papa ordinavit certam et competentem formam pacis inter duos reges, pro congrua relevatione status Dominæ Reginæ Angliæ; quam quidem formam pacis Rex Franciæ et dicta Domina Regina in omnibus acceptarunt, ut dicunt. Et si Dominus noster Rex Angliæ hujusmodi formam pacis voluerit acceptare omnia pacifice conquiescent. Sin alias, quod absit, Dominus Papa de plenitudine potestatis, et Rex Franciæ cum suis confœderatis, de communi condicto, ut dicitur, terram Angliæ et ipsius incolas visitabunt. Correctio tamen nulla sequetur, sed confusio miserabilis ubilibet pullulabit. Dominæ Reginæ et filio suo Duci Aquitaniæ cum venerint in Angliam, licet decet et expedit reverenter occurrere non violenter obsistere quovis modo, si autem viros potentes et armatos in multitudine nimia et insolita secum duxerint, difficillimum et periculosum erit malivolos et benevolos separare; et ideo tali segregationi terribili non expediret vobis personaliter interesse, quia forte Dominus Papa, qui Regi Franciæ multum favet, hujusmodi invasionem regni Anglie dissimulando tolerabit, in pœna contumaciæ et contemptus Anglorum, si ordinationi suæ, de qua supra fit mentio, non paruerint, prout Rex Franciæ et Domina Regina Angliæ, ut dicitur, paruerunt. Si vero Dominus Rex aliquid arduum super præmissis vobis mandaverit faciendum, sicut estis præmuniti, habita deliberatione, facietis ea quæ licite, commode, et honeste fieri poterunt, salvis semper salvandis, quia præcepta ipsius Dei ex omni parte non servantur, nec etiam omnia præcepta hominis bene

compleri poterunt hiis diebus. De magno exercitu in partibus Franciæ congregato, de quo mihi mandastis, nichil possum exquirere ab illis qui veniunt de partibus prædictis; nec est verisimile quod magnus exercitus subito valeat adunari sine magnis temporis intervallis, propter multa et magna præparatoria quæ in talibus requiruntur. Et credo quod, quamdiu patet omnibus hinc et inde liber accessus et recessus, alienigenæ se ad arma non parabunt nec exercitum congregabunt; sed defensio transitus hinc et inde erit præsagium adventus ipsorum. Populus Kanciæ, præcipue juxta mare, debilis est et pauper, et dubito quod si exercitum navalem viderint ad campestria et silvestria declinabunt, et litora maritima potentioribus relinquent; quia *nemo invitus bene facit.* Verumptamen, antequam dicti nuntii Domini Papæ in Angliam venerint et Domini nostri Regis responsum receperint super præmissis, non oportet, ut videtur, multum tremere, nec timere invasionem regni sæpius comminatam. Adhuc, hac die Mœrtis proxima quidam domicellus, qui dixit se esse cum Comite Kanciæ, venit apud Cantuariam de partibus transmarinis, et portavit Domino Regi litteras dicti Comitis, ut dicebat: *Quod si placet sibi cum benevolentia sua, et sine aliqua offensa possit in Angliam redire, paratus est venire, sin alias, expectabit in partibus Franciæ tempora commodiora. Nullas tamen confœderationes faciet cum aliquo alienigena contra Dominum Regem vel aliquem de suis,* ut dixit. Præmissa vobis scribo sompniando; et dicit sapiens:

Sompnia ne cures
Quia fallunt plurima plures.

Istam cedulam si placet sub secreto silentio teneatis. Valeat et vigeat vestra paternitas in prosperitate felici. Scriptum Cantuariæ die Sancti Gregorii. Item expedit, ut videtur, Dominæ Reginæ et filio suo, cum venerint in Anglia, reverenter occurrere non

obsistere violenter, sed, ipsos, tanquam filiam et filium vestros speciales, cum omni modestia qua convenit hortari, et exortari in Domino Jesu Christo quod non permittant pacem Ecclesiæ et regni per aliquos ipsis assistentes turbari, nec populum, de ipsorum adventu gratulantem, per strepitum armatorum terreri.

14 Mar. (1326?)

174.—De ultima petitione Domino Regi facta, et de insolentiis et defectibus quorundam fratrum.

Chart. Antiq. c. 129 *l.*

The Archbishop explains how it happened that news of the Prior's petition to the King have been withheld. He relates how he appeased the enraged King by falsely pretending that he contemplated making a visitation of his Cathedral church.

Walterus permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, totius Angliæ Primas, dilecto filio Domino Henrico Priori Ecclesiæ nostræ Christi Cantuariensis, salutem, gratiam, et benedictionem. Inter cetera, epistola, per nos denuo [1] vobis missa, de missione petitionis, formatæ noviter super facto Dovoriæ Domino nostro Regi, fecisse recolimus mentionem; verum, per nostratum incuriam alicujus, eadem petitio defuit, quod ægre ferimus, vobis mitti; nunc denuo copiam ejusdem, involutam præsentibus, ad vos duximus destinandam, et ecce, ad eandem petitionem responsio regia, jam Domino Willelmo de Nuttelee Cruciferario nostro (quem provide prosecutorem constituimus penes eum) facta, continet, quam Rex ipse, super nostris rationibus et motivis illa petitione reductis, et oblatione summæ pecuniæ sibi facta pro suo status antiqui Ecclesiæ nostræ facto confirmatorio, deliberari providit; quodque suæ deliberationis intentum, in ejus

[1] *olim.*

1 Apl. 1326.

L. 129 *a.*

175.—Domino Hugoni Comiti Wyntoniæ pro Waleworth.

The Prior appeals to the elder Despenser for protec-

A noble home lur trescher bien ame en Dieu Sire Hugh Counte de Wyncestre, Henri Priour del Esglise de Canterbirs et le Covent de meisme le luy, saluz. Trescher Sire, pur ceo qe Edmund fitz Pierez

diffinitionis eventum, nobis suis litteris intimaret. Ceterum, quia, ut vobis similiter scripsimus, cum Dominus noster Rex exscandescendo in nos comminatorie diceret, quod nisi super suggestis sibi, ut dixerat, defectibus, quos recitaverat, manus correctionis apponere curaremus, ipse, Domini Summi Pontificis auctoritate, quam sibi velle procurare prætendebat, suffultus, faceret adhiberi medelam; nostra subsecuta responsio continebat, quod noviter ad nostram Cantuariensem Ecclesiam . . . . . in visitationis officio inibi impendendo faceremus comperta devia reformari. Hoc utique pro tunc duximus proponendum, ut facilius sedaretur animi sui motus; licet nobis non fuisset intentio visitandi. Equidem ipsam nostram Cantuariensem Ecclesiam, dum ibidem negotia . . . . . dirigendo feliciter præsidetis, visitationis officio minus novimus indigere, locaque sanctorum patrum prædecessorum nostrorum . . . . . oculorum intuitu visitationis vobiscum, super communicatis, vestræ prudentiæ jam antea litteris nostris missis . . . . . visu et colloquio perfruamur. Quia igitur de petitione hujusmodi . . . . . litteris ultimo vobis scriptis vestra teneat discretio nobis . . . . . In continuæ prosperitatis gaudio . . . . . valeat. Datum apud Otteford ij° Idus Martii.[1]

[2] The latter part of this letter is illegible from decay.

175.

To their noble, very dear, and well-beloved in God Sir Hugh Earl of Winchester, Henry, Prior of the Church of Canterbury and the Convent of the same place, greeting. Very dear Sire, whereas Edmund, the son of Peter

tion against the acts of Edmund de Cornhell, a member of the Earl's household.

de Cornhull, qi est de vostre houstel, si come il dit, nous emplede de nostre petit manoir de Waleworth, qe Saint Edward le Roi dona a nostre Esglise de Canterbire passe sount cc. xx. iiij. ans et pluis; et le dit Edmund ne veut se retrere de son play sanz commandement de vous, sicome il est dit; nous vous prioms, trescher Sire, devoutement, qe pur le honur et lamour de Dieu, et de Saint Edward le Roi, et de Saint Thomas, vous plese bonement suffrir et tant faire qe le dit Edmund se voille retrerer de cel play, et cesser des grevances qe il fait a nous et a nostre Esglise, la quele vous avez toutz jours especialement ame, et moult eide en totes ses busoignes. A Dieu, trescher Sire, qi vous donit bone vie et longe. Donez en nostre Chapitle le septisme jour de Averil, lan de grace M[l]CCCXXVJ.

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3 April 1326.

L. 144 *b*.

176.—De rescripto Officialis Curiæ Cantuariensis ad appellationem Thomæ de Gosebek præsentati ad vicariam ecclesie de Aysshe Norwycensis diœcesis.

The Bishop of Norwich neglecting to institute a Vicar presented to the living of Ash-Bocking by the Chapter of Canterbury (the patrons) is cited to the Archbishop's Court.

Venerabili in Xpo. patri Domino Willelmo Dei gratia Norwycensi Episcopo, Officialis Curiæ Cantuariensis, salutem, cum reverentia, et honore debitis (tanto) patri. Ex parte Domini Thomæ de Gosebek, presbyteri, nobis extitit intimatum, quod licet ipse ad vicariam ecclesiæ de Aysseh, vestræ diœcesis, vacantem, per veros ejusdem vicariæ patronos, vobis, loci diœcesano, fuisset et sit præsentatus, inquisitioque, super vacatione dictæ vicariæ et aliis articulis debitis et consuetis, ad mandatum vestrum, prout moris est, rite et legitime facta pro dicto sufficienter fecisset et faciat[1] præsentato, nichil que sibi obviaret aut obviet de canonicis institutis quominus ad dictam vicariam admitti deberet, et vicarius institui in eadem; vos

[1] *fuisset et sit?*

de Cornhull, who, as he says, belongs to your household, is suing us (for possession) of our little manor of Walworth, which Saint Edward the King gave to our Church two hundred and fourscore years and more ago. And the said Edmond will not withdraw from his suit, as it is said, without an order from you; we devoutly pray you, very dear Sire, that, for the honour and the love of God, and of Saint Edward the king, and of Saint Thomas, that you will be pleased to allow and to act so that the said Edmond may be willing to withdraw from his suit, and to stop the troubles which he is making for us and our Church, which church you have ever especially loved and greatly helped in all its concerns. God be with you very dear Sire, and give you good life and long. Given in our chapter house the 7th day of April, in the year of grace 1326.

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tamen ipsum Thomam, sic præsentatum, ad eandem vicariam admittere et vicarium in eadem instituere, ac cetera quæ vestro in hac parte incumbebant officio peragere, non curastis, quinpotius recusastis seu plus debito detulistis minus juste, congrue et cum instantia debita requisiti, in dicti Domini Thomæ præjudicium non modicum et gravamen. Unde ex parte ejusdem, sentientis se ex hoc per vos indebite prægravari, ad Curiam Cantuariensem extitit, ut asserit, litteratorie appellatum. Quare vobis, cum ea qua decet reverentia, inhibemus, et per vos omnibus et singulis quibus jus exigit inhiberi, volumus et mandamus ne, pendente in Curia Cantuariensi hujusmodi appellationis causa, quicquid hac occasione in dictæ partis appellantis præjudicium attemptetis vel attemptant, faciatis aut faciant attemptari, quominus eidem parti appellanti libera pateat sua appellationem hujusmodi prosequendi facultas. Tenore etiam præsentium peremptorie vos citamus, quod compareatis coram nobis vel Commissario

nostro in ecclesia Beatæ Mariæ de Aldermaricherche Londoniis proximo die juridico post festum Sancti Johannis ante portam Latinam, in dicta appellationis causa processuros, facturos, et recepturos, quod justitia suadebit. De die vero receptionis præsentium, et quid

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6 Apl. (1326).

177.—Littera missa Johanni Doo super præmissis.

L. 145 *a*.

The Bailiff of Christ Church for the Eastern Counties, to whom the foregoing rescript was sent enclosed in the present letter, is required to hand the rescript to the clerk presented to Ash Bocking, and to instruct him in the procedure to be observed in serving a copy on the Bishop.

Salutz. Nous vous enveyoms la lettre le Official de Canterbirs, et vous mandoms, qe vous diez et enformez hastivement sanz delay Sire Thomas de Gosebek, nostre clerk qe nous avoms presente a la vicarie del esglise de Ayssch, qe il porte cele lettre al Evesqe de Northwycz, et qe il baille cele lettre al dit Evesqe en la presence de tabellion et des tesmoignes; et qe le tabellion face un instrument publik del jour, et del an, et del leu, quant le dit Thomas bandera la lettre al Evesqe. Et qe le dit Thomas, une foith et autrefoith, prie et demande al Evesqe apostles sicome nous vous mandames nadgeres; et sur ceo face faire un instrument publik. Et mandez nous, ausitost come vous purrez, le instrument publik qe le dit Thomas ad de la lettre de presentement a la vicarie, qe il bailla al Evesqe; et ausi lautre instrument qe il ad de son apel qe il ad fait del Evesqe; et ausi le instrument qe il ad des apostles qe il ad si sovent prie et demande del Evesqe; et ausi le instrument qe il avera de la lettre le Official de Canterbirs qe il bandera al Evesqe, pur le appel qe il ad fait. Et dites al dit Thomas qe il retyne vers lymeismes sauvement la lettre le dit Official qe nous vous enveyoms, sicome ele est endosse dehors; pur ceo qe ceo est la copie de lautre lettre le Official qe il bandera al Evesqe. Et dites ausi al dit Thomas, qe il soit a Londres a son premier jour devant le Official, cest assaver le vj^{me} jour de May proschein avenir, pur faire un procuratour pur luy, et

in præmissis feceritis nos vel nostrum Commissarium, dictis die et loco, certificetis per litteras vestras patentes, harum seriem continentes. Dat. Londoniis iij° Nonas Aprilis, anno Dni. M°CCC^mo°XXVJ^to.

177.

Greeting. We send you the letter of the Official of Canterbury and command you that quickly and without delay you tell and inform Sir Thomas de Gosebek, our clerk, whom we have presented to the vicarage in the church of Ash (Bocking), that he is to carry this letter to the Bishop of Norwich, and that he is to hand this letter to the said Bishop in the presence of a notary and witnesses, and that the notary must draw up a public instrument stating the day, the year, and the place, when the said Thomas hands the letter to the Bishop. And let the said Thomas once and again demand of the Bishop letters of appeal such as we directed formerly, and then let him forthwith cause a public instrument to be drawn up. And as soon as you can, send to us the public instrument which the said Thomas has concerning the letter of presentation to the vicarage which he handed to the Bishop; and also the other which he has concerning the appeal which he has made from the Bishop; and also the instrument which he has concerning the letters of appeal which he has so often asked and demanded from the Bishop; and also the instrument which he will have concerning the letter of the Official of Canterbury which he is about to hand to the Bishop, on account of the appeal which he has made. And tell the said Thomas to retain safely in his own hands, the letter of the said Official which we are now sending him, as is written upon the back of it; because this is a copy of the other letter of the Official which he

qe il vyne a nous a Canterbirs avant cel jour, pur estre enforme des choses qe il deit faire a Londres. Donez a Canterbirs le vj^me^ jour de Averil.

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6 Apl. (1326).

L. 145 *b*.

178.—De homagio Domini Rogeri de Bavent et calumpniis Archidiaconi Cantuariensis et aliis.

Prior Eastry's letter of news to the Archbishop. Living on the high road to and from the Continent, he is able to collect early information from passengers.

Suo patri. Habito nuper cum Ricardo, ballivo vestro de Wyngham, colloquio et tractatu de homagio Rogeri Bavent, et de maneriis de Pettesworth et Cokkyngg, videtur mihi, quod dictus ballivus vester plenius vos informabit de statu et conditione dictorum maneriorum, et aliis ea contingentibus, quam aliquis alius de consilio vestro. Adhuc pater, querela Archidiaconi Cantuariensis super tribus gravaminibus, per vos mihi pridie notificatis, est modicum ponderanda; quia videtur quod qærit nodum in (s)cirpo, et occasionem ubi nulla subest causa. Jurisdictio enim archidiaconalis vacare non potest nec etiam dormitare, quia, cedente vel decedente Archidiacono, statim ipsius jurisdictio, quæ est quasi consuetudinaria, redit ad eum[1] totum a quo sumpsit originem, donec alius Archidiaconus actualiter instituatur; nec aliud in hac parte oculus hominis vidit, nec auris audivit, nec in cor hominis ascendit, a tempore bonæ memoriæ Stephani quondam Archiepiscopi Cantuariensis, qui archidiaconatum Cantuariensem contulit Simoni fratri suo, et in augmentum jurisdictionis dicti Archidiaconi concessit eidem Archidiacono, fratri suo, et succes-

[1] *suum* in MS.

is going to hand to the Bishop. Also tell the said Thomas that he must be in London on his first (assigned) day before the Official, that is to say on the sixth day of May next coming, in order to make a power of attorney for himself; and that he must come to us at Canterbury before the said day, in order to be prompted as to what he ought to do in London. Given at Canterbury the 6th day of April.

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soribus suis creationem omnium ruralium Decanorum vestræ diœcesis Cantuariensis, carne et sanguine sibi, proculdubio, revelante. Dicitur etiam quod Archidiaconus qui nunc est commendam vestram ecclesiæ de Bourne vacantis Magistro R. Cancellario vestro nuper factam non approbat, nec acceptat, propter custodiam ecclesiarum vacantium in diœcesi vestra et perceptionem fructuum earundam, quam vendicat ad archidiaconatum Cantuariensem pertinere. Sed hoc sequeretur inconveniens, quod nullam commendam alicujus ecclesiæ vacantis in diœcesi vestra possetis alicui facere, exceptis ecclesiis vacantibus quæ sunt immediatæ et exemptæ jurisdictionis vestræ. Item: hac die Mercurii proxime præterita, transierunt per Cantuariam plures sollempnes nuntii Regis Portingaliæ, versus Dominum Regem Angliæ properantes et sibi deferentes bonum et acceptabile nuntium, ut dicebant. Item: hac die Sabbati præterita, in sonitu vesperarum, venerunt ad feretrum Sancti Thomæ quidam clericus et unus novitius de partibus Franciæ; et requisiti si aliquid audissent des Dominis Archiepiscopo et Episcopo, nuntiis Domini Papæ in Francia? Responderunt: Quod die Martis præcedente, ipsos Parisiis dimiserunt, et infra xv. dies sequentes ad ipsos redibunt ibidem, et cito post cum ipsis nuntiis venient in Angliam ad Dominum Regem, ex parte Domini Papæ, et Regis Franciæ, ac Dominæ Reginæ Angliæ destinati. Alia non sunt relatione

digna vobis ista vice scribenda, set prospere valeatis in lacu miseriæ mundialis. Script. Cantuar. vj^to^ die Aprilis.

19 Apl. (1326).

L. 145 *b*.

179.—De subballivo libertatis Archiepiscopi in Cantuaria residente mortuo, et alio loco ipsius substituendo.

The Archbishop's Sub-bailiff in Canterbury being dead, the officers of the Sheriff of Kent have arrested the Archbishop's subjects, in prejudice of his privileges.

Suo patri. Quia subballivus principalis Senescalli libertatis vestræ, qui ex debito officii sui in Cantuaria solebat quasi continue residere, nuper diem suum clausit extremum, nec adhuc alius loco ipsius est in dicto officio subrogatus, ballivi Vicecomitis Kanciæ, ipso penitus, ut creditur, ignorante, homines et tenentes vestros et Ecclesiæ vestræ capiunt et attachiant infra libertatem Ecclesiæ vestræ, et ipsos ad castrum Cantuariæ captivatos deducunt, et ibidem in ferris detinent alligatos, in præjudicium libertatis vestræ et

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19 May (1326).

L. 146 *a*.

180.—Responsio ad certum numerum hominum armatorum providendorum pro warda maris.

The Prior, who holding his estates in *free alms* is not bound to furnish military aid, nevertheless offers to do all he can for the defence of the kingdom against the expected invasion.

A son trescher et bien ame en Dieu, si luy plest, Monsire Rauf Basset de Drayton, Conestable de Dovor, et Gardien de Sinc Ports, Henri Priour del Esglise de Canterbirs, saluz, et la joye perdurable. Sire, voillez saver qe nous avoms conseille nostre honurable piere Lercevesqe de Canterbirs ausi come il afferreit sur les busoignes qe vous nous enparlastes drein. Et nous avoms entendu qe il semble a luy, ausi come il fet a nous, qe chescun enest tenuz de faire quant il purra pur la sauvete de Seinte Esglise, et lonur nostre Seignur le Roi et de son roialme. Et pur ceo, Sire, tot ne tienoms nous teres ne temporaltes fors qe en pure et en perpetuele almoyne, et sicome frank dowere del Esglise ; ne tot ne eyoms nous home ne tenant qe

Ecclesiæ vestræ, nec ipsos deliberare volunt, ut dicunt, alicui, nisi litteras vestras patentes vel dicti principalis Senescalli libertatis vestræ portanti. Expedit omni modo, ne hujusmodi insolita abusio erronea trabatur in consequentiam, quod vos mittatis unam commissionem ballivo vestro de Wyngham, vel alicui alteri personæ vobis notæ, ad petendum, exigendum, calumpniandum, tuendum, et conservandum jura et libertates vestras et Ecclesiæ vestræ Cantuariensis, quousque vos vel dictus Senescallus principalis libertatis vestræ duxeritis vel duxerit super præmissis aliud ordinare. Super hiis autem quæ Frater Laurencius de Sandwyco, Prior conventualis Fratrum Prædicatorum Cantuariæ, ex parte vestra mihi vivæ vocis oraculo nuntiavit, faciam quod per me commode fieri poterit, tempore oportuno. Valeat et prospere vigeat salus vestra. Script. Cantuar. die passionis Sci. Ealphegi, prædecessoris vestri, martyris gloriosi.

180.

To his very dear and well-beloved in God, if it please him, Sir Ralph Basset of Drayton, Constable of Dover and Warden of the Cinque Ports, Henry, Prior of the Church of Canterbury, greeting, and eternal joy. Sire, be pleased to know that we have advised our honourable father the Archbishop of Canterbury, as it behoved us, upon the matters of which you spoke to us lately. And we gather that it seems to him, just as it does to us, that everyone is bound to do all he can for the security of Holy Church, and for the honour of our Lord the King and of his realm. And therefore, Sire, notwithstanding that we hold no temporal possessions except in pure and perpetual alms, and as it were in free dower of the Church; and notwithstanding

face a nous nulle manere service de fait de armes come altres gentz unt, dure chose serreit a nous de promettre certein nombre des gentz darmes; nepurquant, Sire, pur faire la volonte nostre Seignur le Roi tant avant come nous purroms, nous afforceroms nous in tote la manere qe nous purroms, solum lestat de nostre meson, de garder et sauver lonur et lestat nostre Seignur le Roi et de son roialme, et de mettre le eide et le conseil qe nous purroms en defense de la terre contre ses enemis et ses malvoillantz. A Dieu Sire, qi vous garde en sante de corps et de alme. Donez a Canterbirs, le xix^me^ jour de Maij.

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12 June 1326.

L. 146 *b*.

181.—Littera Capituli de liberatione Petri Bernard.

A *liberatio* or allowance which Gawain Cordier received from the Convent, whose agent he was in France, has been

Universis pateat per præsentes, quod ad instantiam Domini Edwardi, Dei gratia Regis Angliæ illustris, religiosi viri Prior et Conventus Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis concesserunt Petro Bernard, pro sustentatione sua in omnibus, usque ad terminum vitæ suæ xx^ti^ marcas sterlingorum quas Gawenus Corder de eisdem annuatim percipere consuevit, et easdem xx^ti^ marcas idem Gawenus Corder forisfecit inimicis Domini Regis adhærendo, prout idem Dominus Rex

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25 June. 1326.

L. 146 *b*.

182.—Littera missa J. Doo pro ecclesia de Ayssh.

The Bishop of Norwich is willing to institute the Vicar

Saluz. Endroit de ceo qe vous nous mandastes nadgeres, qe Levesqe de Norwyz vous ad dit, qe si nous voilloms mettre a sa grace de une enpension par an qi ne passereit mie outre x. s., il nous grantera nostre requeste endroit del esglise et de la vicarie de Aysseh: sachez, qe nous avoms parle a nostre conseil

that we have neither man nor tenant who owes us any manner of military service, as other people have, so that it would be a hard thing for us to promise a certain number of men-at arms; nevertheless, Sire, in order to perform the will of our Lord the King as far forth as we can, we will exert ourselves in every way that we shall be able, considering the condition of our House, to guard and protect the honour and dignity of our Lord the King, and of his realm, and to give all the assistance and advice that we can in defence of our land against his enemies and ill-wishers. God be with you Sire, and keep you in health of body and soul. Given at Canterbury, the 19th day of May.

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per litteras suas testatur, percipiendas ab eisdem Priore et Conventu apud Cantuariam per æquales portiones ad quatuor anni terminos principales, incipiente primo termino solutionis quinque marcarum in festo Sci. Michaelis post confectionem præsentium proxime sequenti, nisi Dominus Rex de pensione prædicta aliter ordinare voluerit. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum Prioris et Conventus et sigillum prædicti Petri huic scripto cirographato alternatim sunt appensa. Dat. Cantuar. xij^mo die Junii, anno Dni. M°CCC°XXVJ^to°.

forfeited by his adhesion to theQueen's party, and the King succeeds in having it transferred to a more loyal servant.

182.

Greeting. Concerning that of which you lately informed us by your letters, namely, that the Bishop of Norwich has said to you, that if we were willing to have his favour by means of a yearly pension which need not exceed ten shillings, he would comply with our request concerning the church and the vicarage of Ash (Bocking);

of Ash Bocking, on the presentation of the Convent, if out of the revenues of the benefice a pension is settled on him and his successors, not exceeding ten shillings a year. In consequence, the bailiff is instructed to drive a bargain.

de ceste busoigne, et sumes acordez de faire empension al Evesqe par an; cest assaver demy mark chescun an, si vous le poez atant mettre, et si noun, nous voloms bien qe il eyt x. soudz par an, par la main nostre vicair de Ayssch; et nous encresteroms la portion le vicaire de x. s. par an des biens de meisme lesglise de Ayssh; issi qe levesqe receive nostre vicaire et luy doyne institution et induction par ses lettres patentes. Et si Levesqe le voille faire et le face, il nest pas mester qe vous luy baillez la prohibicion le Roi, qe Thomas de Medmenham vous manda. Et endroit de ceo qe vous nous mandastes, si nous voilloms riens faire al dit Evesqe a sa almoyne: suffrez, et entendez de riens faire de cel point, tant qe Levesqe eyt esployte noz autres busoignes. Et si vous avez les deners prestz en vostre garde, sicome nous mandames a vous autrefoith, gardez sauvement les deners tant qe nous vous mandoms autre chose. Et ceo qe le dit Evesqe en vodra faire de ceste busoine nous mandez aplustost qe vous purrez. A Dieu qi vous gard. Donez a Canterbirs lendemeyn de la Nativite Saint Johan le Baptist, lan du regne le Roi Edward xix^{m}.

3 July 1326.

L. 127 *a*.

183.—Littera missa J. Doo pro ecclesia de Ayssch.

Further instructions to the attorney in the diocese of Norwich.

Saluz. Endroit de ceo qe vous nous mandastes nadgeres, par voz lettres et par le portour de cestes, de faire suerte al Evesqe de Norwycz de une empension de demy mark del esglise de Ayssch, nous enveyoms a vous la forme de une lettre qe nostre conseil a Canterbirs ad ordine de enveyer par vous al dit Evesqe de Norwycz, si Mestre Geffrei de Eyton, et Mestre Adam de Murymouth sil est a Londres, et Mestre Brice de Scharsted, et nos autres amis a

know that we have conferred with our counsel on this matter, and we have determined to agree to pay the Bishop an annual pension; that is to say, half a marc a year, if you can fix it at that sum, and if not, we are quite willing that he should have ten shillings a year, to be paid by the hands of the vicar of Ash; and we will augment the stipend of the vicar by the sum of ten shillings out of the profits of the said church of Ash, on condition that the Bishop shall accept our vicar, and by his letters patent give him institution and induction. And if the Bishop be both willing to do this, and also if he do it, there will be no need for you to serve him with the King's prohibition which Thomas de Medmenham sent you. Concerning what you sent to us (asking) whether we were willing to do anything for the Bishops alms (fund), wait, and take care to do nothing in this matter until the Bishop has finished our other affairs. If you have the money in cash in your keeping, as we told you formerly, keep it safely until we send you farther directions. And send word to us as early as you can what the Bishop means to do in this business, God be with you. Given at Canterbury on the morrow of the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist, in the 19th year of the reign of King Edward.

183.

Greeting. Concerning the matter of which you lately sent to us by your letters, and by the bearer of these present letters, namely, that security should be given to the Bishop of Norwich for the payment of a pension of half a marc out of the church of Ash, we send you the form of a letter which our counsel at Canterbury has settled to be sent by you to the said Bishop of Norwich, provided that Master Geoffrey de Eyton, and Master Adam de Murymouth if he is in London, and Master Brice, of Scharsted, and our other friends in

Londres assentent a cele forme. Et pur ceo monstrez cele forme a noz ditz amis, et auxi coment le dit Evesqe vous respondi nadgeres de noz busoignes del esglise de Ayssch. Et le conseil de noz ditz amis a Londres, et ceo qe il ordineront de la dite lettre ou de autre lettre, quele qi ele soit, de enveyer al dit Evesqe, pur suerte de la dite enpension, enveyez a nous a Canterbirs, et nous la froms ensealler, et la remanderoms a vous de porter al dit Evesqe. Et auxitost come Levesqe avera receu nostre vicaire, et pris obedience de luy, et done a luy ses lettres patentes de institution et de induction de cele vicarie, offrez et payez a luy a sa almoigne xx. marks, et ces xx. marks faites lever en vostre baillie, laa ou vouz purrez pluistost et pluis convenablement faire. Et nous vous enveyoms une lettre enseale de nostre grant seal, et voloms qe vous meismes la baillez a mestre Robert de Baldok le Chanceler pur nous et nostre Chapitle, et le merciez moult de sa lettre qe il nous enveya nadgeres. Et sachez qe cele lettre qe vous luy baillerez ne demande nul respouns. A Dieu qi vous gard. Donez a Canterbirs le iij^{m} jour de Juyl, lan de grace M^{l}CCCXXVJ.

(1326.) 184.—COPIA INSTITUTIONIS VICARII DE AYSSCH, NORWYCENSIS DIŒCESIS.

Form of institution of a vicar to the newly ordained vicarage of Ash Bocking.

Willelmus Dei gratia Norwycensis Episcopus dilecto filio Thomæ de Gosebek presbytero salutem, &c. ad vicariam ecclesiæ de Ayssch . . . ad quem per . . . Priorem et Capitulum Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis veros patronos . . . dictam ecclesiam auctoritate Sedis Apostolicæ in proprios usus optinentes, nobis præsentatus existis, te admittimus et vicarium in eadem instituimus, &c.

London, agree to this form. And therefore show this form to our said friends, and also (tell them) how the said Bishop answered you formerly about our business of the church of Ash. And the advice of our said friends at London, and what they determine concerning the said letter, or any other form of letter whatsoever to be sent to the said Bishop as security for the said pension, communicate to us at Canterbury, and we will cause it to be sealed, and will return it to you for delivery to the said Bishop. And as soon as the Bishop shall have accepted our vicar, and taken his profession of canonical obedience, and given to him his letters of institution and induction to this vicarage, offer and pay to him twenty marcs for his alms fund, and raise this twenty marcs in your bailiwick, wherever you can most quickly and best do so. And we will send you a letter sealed with our great seal, and we desire that you will yourself carry it to Master Robert de Baldok, the Chancellor, for us and our Chapter, and do you thank him heartily for his letter which he lately sent to us. And take notice that this letter which you will hand to him does not require an answer. God be with you, and keep you. Given at Canterbury the 3rd day of July, in the year of grace 1326.

185.—De manerio de Caldecote.

(1326.)

L. 146 *a*.

The Archbishop, proposing to endow the monastery of Christ Church with one of his manors, asks for

Suo patri. Copiam petitionis vestræ, Domino Papæ nuper transmissæ, pro manerio vestro de Caldecote Conventui concedendo, nuper inspexi, nec oportet, ut videtur, Sedem Apostolicam consulere super præmissis; quia hujusmodi concessio vestra facta Conventui alienatio dici non potest, nec juramento vestro, præstito in receptione pallii, aliqualiter obsistit; quia dominium rei non transferret[1] ab una ecclesia ad aliam, sed remanet penes eandem; nec ab una persona ad

[1] *transfertur* first written and then cancelled in MS.

licence to alienate it in a petition to the Pope. The Prior after inspecting the petition tells the Archbishop that the Pope's licence is not required.

extraneam, sed conjunctam; nec est hereditatis alienatio sponsam dotare; nec etiam bonorum delapidatio filios locupletare; nec alienatio mensæ patris censetur filios devotos de mensa sua specialiter recreare. Teneatis igitur sanum consilium Apostoli, operando bonum ad omnes dum tempus habetis.

[— si corpus et membra de mensa capitis reficientur; non oportet igitur, ut videtur, Dominum Papam consulere super præmissis, nec ab ipso licentiam postulare; quia nec jura divina nec humana præmissa fieri prohibent, set permittunt juxta modum præscriptum. Conventus siquidem absque alienationis scrupulo prædecessoribus vestris multa concessit . . . .][1]

9 June (1326).

186.—Excusatio de non veniendo.

L. 146 *b*.

The Prior pleads his infirmities as a reason for not visiting the Archbishop when summoned.

Suo patri. Præter debilitatem corporis quam michi attulit tædiosa senectus, continuus dolor lateris me deprimit et affligit, quominus possum equum ascendere, nec de loco ad locum me transferre. Habeat igitur, si placet, pius pater filium devotum ista vice rationabiliter excusatum. Facta et gesta nuper apud Saltwode, prout exquirere potui, vobis proculdubio nuntiassem, nisi Frater Laurencius de Sandwyco, commensalis vester, illuc personaliter affuisset, qui plenius multa vidit et audivit ibidem, et credo quod ea seriosius vobis scripsit. Valeat dominus meus pater et pastor, et cuncta prospera sibi succedant. Dat. apud Broke juxta Wy, ix° die Junii.

26 Aug. (1326.)

187.—De absolutione quorundam garcionum excommunicatorum.

L. 127 *a*.

The Prior arranges with the

Suo patri. Cum pridie, post solis occasum, michi constaret de turbatione animi vestri, pro injuriosa aggressione facta clerico vestro per insolentias gar-

[1] This clause was first written by the Prior, but being, reasonably, considered unapt in style, it was cancelled and the form as it stands in the text adopted in its place.

cionum (quibus omnibus proprium est lætari cum malefecerint, et, more reproborum, in rebus pessimis exultare) statim disposui omnes illos michi subditos, qui hujusmodi facto detestabili interfuerunt, ab omn obsequio meo, tanquam malemeritos, destitueri, nunquam postea reversuros, quousque voluntati vestræ totaliter se submiserint, et læso satisfecerint, ac a vobis absolutionis beneficium optinuerint de commissis. Et ideo cum ad vos venerint occasione prædicta, juxta vestræ discretionis arbitrium ordinetis prout ipsorum animabus videritis expedire. Valeat et vigeat dominus meus pater et pastor in prosperitate felici. Dat. Cantuar. xxvj^to^ die Augusti.

Archbishop for the absolution of certain grooms who have assaulted the Archbishop's clerk.

188.—Procuratorium generale pro visitationibus et procurationibus Ordinariorum et canonicam obedientiam faciendam.

12 Sept. 1326.

L. 127 *b*.

Universis pateat per præsentes quod nos, Henricus permissione divina Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis et ejusdem loci Capitulum, in omnibus causis et negotiis, nos et ecclesiam nostram de Aysscb, Norwycensis diœcesis, qualitercunque tangentibus, motis vel movendis, coram quibuscunque judicibus, ordinariis delegatis et aliis, quamcunque jurisdictionem seu vocationem causarum vel negotiorum habentibus et habituris, quibuscunque diebus et locis quotiens nos abesse contigerit, dilectum nobis in Christo Dominum Thomam de Gosebek, vicarium dictæ ecclesiæ de Aysscb nostrum verum et legitimum procuratorem ordinamus, facimus, et constituimus per præsentes; dantes eidem potestatem et mandatum speciale, nomine nostro et ecclesiæ nostræ de Aysscb prædictæ, agendi, defendendi, protestandi, proponendi, excipiendi, recusandi, replicandi, litem contestandi, in animas nostras, tam de calumpnia quam de veritate dicenda, necnon etiam quodlibet aliud genus liciti juramenti quotiens opus fuerit præstandi, ponendi, positionibus respon-

Power of attorney for appearing before the Ordinary, &c. given to the Vicar of Ash Bocking in the diocese of Norwich, a benefice in the patronage of the Chapter of Christ Church.

dendi, testes et instrumenta producendi, crimina et defectus opponendi, provocandi, appellandi, provocationes et appellationes notificandi, provocationum et appellationum causas prosequendi in integrum restitutionem et status nostri reformationem, expensas, interesse, et dampnorum æstimationem petendi et recipiendi, necnon in synodis, capitulis, et quorumcunque ordinariorum visitationibus, ac cleri convocationibus et congregationibus, nos et ecclesiam prædictam de Aysseh concernentibus, comparendi, faciendi ulterius et recipiendi in præmissis nomine nostro omnia quæ

19 Sept. 1326.

L. 127 *b*.

189.—Littera directa G. de Arundel pro bonis ecclesiæ restituendis.

The Prior (not for the first time) requires G. de Arundel to restore to the Convent certain goods which he has obtained, through the dishonesty of Dom Alexander de Sandwich, one of his monks.

A son trescher et bien ame en Dieu Geffrei de Arundel, Henri Priour, etc. saluz et saunte de cors et de alme. Pur ceo qe vous nous mandastes nadgeres, par Johan vostre fitz, qe vous fustes prest de retornir a nostre Esglise tuz les biens nostre Covent qe Danz Alisander de Sandwyz, qi Dieux assoille, vous presta nadgeres, tant come vous fuistes demorrant a Canterbirs; et puys ascunes gentz unt emporte tuz nos ditz biens hors de Canterbirs desques a Sandwyz, et nous entendoms qe ceo nest pas vostre volonte; nous vous prioms amablement et fiablement qe vous voillez faire retournir a nostre Esglise les ditz biens, desicome le dit Alisander ne aveyt pour ne conge ne auctorite de aliener les biens del Esglise, sans lassent de nous et de nostre Covent; et grant peril serroit a sa alme si autre chose avenist, et par cas grant deshonour a son corps; par ceo qe lestat de sainte religion vout qe les cors de gentz de religion qe sont entierre, en semblable cas soyent dessevely et mis hors de sanctuaire; et moult nous desplerroit si tiel cas (qi Dieu defende) avenist a nul de noz freres, ou

canonicis conveniunt institutis. Necnon debita, quæ nobis a quibuscunque debentur, petendi et recipiendi, et de receptis rationabiles acquietancias debitoribus faciendi, ac etiam omnia alia et singula faciendi quæ per verum et legitimum procuratorem fieri poterunt super præmissis etiam si mandatum exigant speciale. Ratum habituri quicquid per eundem procuratorem nostrum actum fuerit in præmissis. Pro eodem etiam sub ypotheca rerum nostrarum solvi promittimus judicatum. In cujus, etc. Dat. in Capitulo nostro xij° die Septembris, anno Dni. M°CCC^mo°XXVJ^to.

189.

To his very dear and well-beloved in God, Geoffrey de Arundel, Henry the Prior, &c., greeting, and health of body and soul. Whereas we lately sent word to you by John your son that you should be prepared to restore to our Church all those goods belonging to our Convent which Dom Alexander de Sandwich, whom God pardon, formerly lent to you, at the time you were dwelling in Canterbury; and since that time some one has carried all our said goods away from Canterbury over to Sandwich, and, as we understand this was not done by your wish, we pray you affectionately and confidently that you will cause the said goods to be restored to our Church, seeing that the said Alexander had neither power nor leave to alienate the goods of the Church without our assent and that of our Convent; and if any other thing should happen it would be a great peril to his soul, and not improbably great dishonour to his body; because the rule of holy (monastic) religion prescribes that the bodies of religious persons which have been interred shall in such cases be disinterred and cast out of the sanctuary; and much it would grieve us if

de noz autres amis. Vostre volonte endroit de ceste chose nous voillez remander par le portour de ceste lettre. A Dieu qi vous gard et quant qe a vous apent. Donez a Canterbire, le xix^me^ jour de Septembre, lan de grace M^l^CCCXXVJ.

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28 Sept. (1326).

L. 127 *b*.

190.—LITTERA MISSA DOMINO ARCHIEPISCOPO SUPER CONSULTATIONE DE ADVENTU ALIENIGENARUM IN PRÆJUDICIUM REGNI.

Advice as to the steps which the King ought to take in view of the great and suspicious influx of foreigners. Dated four days after the landing of Queen Isabella coming from France.

Ponatur quod Dominus Rex, antequam procedat ad arma contra alienigenas qui in manu forti in regnum suum, sine conductu et licentia, ut dicitur, sint ingressi, mittat tres Episcopos ad totam comitivam illam, ad explorandum et exquirendum ab eisdem causam sui adventus, et quare sic venerunt in tanta multitudine armatorum. Et quod dicti Episcopi, ex parte Dei et Sanctæ Ecclesiæ, ipsos alienigenas efficaciter exhortentur quod pacem Ecclesiæ et regni nullatenus conturbent; nec prælatos, nec proceres, nec populum regni terreant nec provocent per suum adventum; et quod causam sui adventus in forma terribili supradicta significent Domino Regi, antequam dicti alienigenæ ulterius procedant in regnum. Deliberetis, si placet, super positione prædicta; et caveatis vobis quod non mittatis homines armatos alicubi, nisi quatenus permittit qualitas et conditio status vestri et Ecclesiæ vestræ, considerantes diligenter qualiter Dominus Papa vos nuper per litteras apostolicas sollicitavit, quod, pro pacifica reconciliatione Dominæ Reginæ et Ducis Aquitaniæ ac aliorum magnatum regni Angliæ eisdem adhærentium, totis viribus instaretis, quia præmissa, ut videtur, Domini Summi Pontificis et totius Curiæ Romanæ insident voluntati. Super præmissis fiat quod vobis dederit spiritus consilii sanioris. Script. xxviij. die Septembris.

(which God forbid) such a case happened to any of our brethren or of our other friends. Send to us if you please your intentions about this matter by the bearer of this letter. God be with you, and keep you and all belonging to you. Given at Canterbury, the 19th day of September, in the year of grace 1326.

191.—ITEM ALIA SUPER EADEM CONSULTATIO. (Oct. 1326.)

Salus sit et solatium salutato. Sicut successive crescit et decrescit omnis creatura, ita paulative voluntas hominis quandoque mutatur; et ideo pro quolibet flatu non est opus bonum et necessarium leviter deserendum, quia plura solet frequenter elicere paucorum petentium importunitas quam multorum pusillanimitas extorquere. Prælatorum siquidem est, non obstante præcepto contrario cujuscumque, pacificos in pace continua solidare, et discordantes, inhibitione nulla resistente, ad concordiam totis viribus revocare; nec debitum officium prælatorum de arbitrio alieno dependet. Consideratis igitur periculis animarum, homicidiis, ac mutilationibus membrorum, totiusque reipublicæ ac cujuslibet rei privatæ irrecuperabili jactura, quæ, ex imminenti congressione terribili armatorum quæ timetur, poterunt evenire, expedit quod vos et alii prælati, quorum manibus sanguis subditorum in districto examine requiretur, officium pastorale viriliter exequamini, non ex parte Domini Regis vel suo nomine, sed ex mero officio vestris lateribus inhærente; Dominam Reginam, modis debitis et honestis, sollicitantes et efficaciter inducentes, quod ad Dominum nostrum Regem, sub salvo conductu vestro, etiam comitiva vestra decenti, absque strepitu armatorum, fiducialiter accedat. Amor enim generosus est, cogi non potest, sed duci vult et allici, non arctari. Et speratur quod hujusmodi progressus et processus vester et aliorum prælatorum in tanto discrimine aliquem

L. 130 *a*.

The Prior advises and comforts the Archbishop on the subject of the political crisis.

sortietur effectum. Aut mala imminentia totaliter impediet, aut futura pericula prorogabit. Et si Dominus Rex (quod absit), omnibus viis aliis prætermissis, ad arma procedere decreverit, quia ambigua sunt fata guerrarum, et in dubiis est via certior amplectenda, sanius et securius vobis erit, ut videtur, in illum eventum in templo Christi ad arma spiritualia interim convolare, quam tot et tantorum congressionibus armatorum personaliter interesse. [Potens est enim Deus, auctor pacis et amator, qui totum genus humanum reconciliavit misericorditer suo patri, instantem nubulam

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28th Oct. 1326.

L. 147 *a*.

192.—Littera pro bonis Petri Bernard custodiendis.

Immediately after Queen Isabella's return to England she sequestrates the goods of Peter Bernard, the King's nominee to the Canterbury pension. In reply to the order for sequestration the Prior writes that the goods are not under his control.

A lur treschere Dame honurable Dame Isabel, par la grace de Dieu Roine Dengleterre, etc. ses chapeleins Henri Priour et le Covent del Esglise de Canterbire, saluz et sante de cors et dalme. Endroit de ceo qe vous nous mandastes nadgeres par voz lettres, qe de reins de biens qe soient a Pierre Bernard en nostre garde ne fassoms delivrer a lui, ne a sez gentz, ne a nul autre sans especial mandement de vous; treschere Dame, vous plese saver qe les biens le dit Pierre ne sont pas en nostre garde; et si riens de ses biens puissent estre trove en nostre poair, nous les froms garder bien et sauvement tant qe nous eyoms autre mandement. A Dieu, treschere Dame, qi vous donit bone vie et longe, et grace en terre et glorie en ciel. Donez en nostre Chapitle le xxviij^{me} jour de Octobre, lan de grace M^{l}CCCXXVJ.

dissolvere.][1] Saltem quousque ipse Deus, auctor pacis et amator, qui totum genus humanum reconciliavit misericorditer suo patri, instantis turbationis nebulam dissolvat, et solitæ claritatis aurora ceperit coruscare. Valete et valeant qui vos valere desiderant. Scriptum in nubibus, lator præsentium sit pro dato.

[1] The clause within brackets, although evidently composed with some care, has been cancelled, and that which follows it was the form in which encouragement was sent to the Archbishop.

192.

To their well-beloved Lady the honourable Lady Isabella, by the grace of God Queen of England, &c., her chaplains, Henry, Prior, and the Convent of the Church of Canterbury, greeting, and health of body and soul. Concerning that of which you sent us word lately in your letters, namely, that of all the goods of Peter Bernard in our keeping, we should deliver none to him, nor to his servants, nor to any one else without your special commandment; very dear Lady, please it you to know that the goods of the said Peter are not under our charge, but if any goods of his should be found under our control, we will cause them to be well and safely kept until we receive further command from you. God be with you very dear Lady, and give you good and long life, with grace upon earth, and glory in heaven. Given in our Chapter House the 28th day of October, in the year of grace 1326.

(1326.) L. 147 *b.*

193.—Petitio pro habendo brevi quod dicitur Elegit pro debito recognito in Curia Domini Regis.

The Prior applies for a writ of *Elegit* to recover a debt for which a recognizance has been given in accordance with the Statute of Acton Burnell.

Ceo monstre a nostre Seignur le Roi et a son Conseil le Priour del Esglise de Canterbire qe Sire Walter de Huntingfeld deit al Priour lx. livres desterlings, et de cele dette ad fait une reconisaunce en Bank a rendre al dit Priour a terme qe est passe; et nulle riens nad uncore paye al dit Priour de cele dette. Et pur ceo prie a nostre Seignur le Roi et a son Conseil le dit Priour, qe lur plese mander as Justices de Bank qe il facent aver al dit Priour le bref *Elegit*, qe est ordine en parlement pur remede a totes gentz countre maveys dettours.

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3 Dec. 1326.

L. 147.

194.—Commissio Ballivi Cicestriæ.[1]

The Chapter appoint a bailiff to attend to their business in Chichester for one year.

Universis pateat per præsentes, quod nos Henricus permissione divina Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis facimus et constituimus dilectum nobis in Christo Ricardum Wodeland ballivum nostrum ad tenendum Curiam nostram et visum franci plegii, necnon ad exercendum, defendendum, et manutenendum jura et libertates nos, et Ecclesiam nostram, ac tenentes et tenementa nostra tangentia in comitatu Sussex; ac etiam petendum et recipiendum nomine nostro redditus nostros,

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(1326.) L. 147 *a.*

195.—Littera G(alfridi) de Arundel.

The son of Geoffrey de Arundel has

A Priour de Seint Herte, par Geffrei de Arundel reverence et honour. Cher Sire endroit de ceo qe

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[1] The Chapter owned some houses and a small field named *Sapacre* in Chichester; gifts from various benefactors.

193.

Hereby is shown to our Lord the King and his Council by the Prior of the Church of Canterbury, that Sir Walter de Huntingfeld owes to the Prior sixty pounds sterling, and that he has made a recognizance of this debt in the King's Bench, promising payment at a certain date now past; and as yet he has paid no part of this debt to the said Prior. And therefore the said Prior prays our Lord the King and his Council, that they will direct the Justices of the Bench that they be pleased to cause a writ of *Elegit* to issue for the said Prior, which writ is provided in Parliament as a redress for all people against defaulting debtors.

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et relevia, et debita, ac omnimoda arreragia reddituum, releviorum, et debitorum quæ nobis debentur a quibuscunque in civitate et suburbio Cicestriæ, et pro eisdem, quotiens opus fuerit, rationabiliter distringendum. Revocantes per præsentes omnem potestatem et auctoritatem, ante confectionem præsentium, quibuscunque personis datas, concessas, vel commissas super præmissis. In cujus rei, etc. Dat. Cantuar. tertio die Decembris, anno regni Regis Edwardi filii Regis Edwardi xx^mo. Præsentibus post annum mimine valituris.

195.

To the Prior of Sacre Cœur from Geoffrey de Arundel, reverence and honour. Dear Sir, as to what you tell

gone on pilgrimage and has deposited some property (which the Prior of Saint Cœur claims) in Canterbury.

vouz avez mande, [sachetz] qe Johan mon fitz nepas en pays, kar il ad baille la chose en garde en Canterbirs et jeo ne say ou, kar il est ale a une pelrinage et sa venue nest pas devant Noel. Cher Sire, pur ceo ne vous desplese, kar ausi tost qe il est venu il vendra devant (vous), et fra issi qe vous soyez bien paye. A Dieux qi vous gard et vous doine bone vie et longe.

23 Nov. 1326.

L. 147 *a*.

196.—Littera credentiæ in forma speciali.

A special letter of attorney empowering the agents of the Convent to act in an arbitration concerning the common boundary wall of Bow Churchyard and the Prior's stone house in Cheapside.

Saluz. Pur aucunes busoignes qi touchent nous et nostre Esglise de une partie, et S. de B. et les altres parrocheins de Esglise de Nostre Dame des Arches en Londres de autre partie, endroit del mur de nostre grant meson de pere en Chepe, parside la dite esglise de Nostre Dame, nous enveyoms a vous noz bien amez R. de Ely, Thomas Edmund, et Johan Balun, et vous prioms fiablement, qe vous plese bonement oir, crere, et faire ceo qe noz ditz amis, ou un de eaux, vous monstra et priera pur nous. Et ceo voillez faire si vous plest, pur lamour Seint Thomas, qi tuz jours avez ame et moult honure A Dieu qi vous gard. Donez a Canterbirs le jour de Seint Clement, lan del regne nostre Seignur le Roi Edward xx^me^.

(1326.)

L. 130 *b*.

197.—Generalis monitio facta in Capitulo.

A general monition published in Chapter commanding all those monks who are debtors

In Dei nomine amen. Licet nuper omnes et singulos hujus congregationis fratres canonice monuerimus, quod omnia debita quæ, ex causa mutui seu depositi, vel alia causa vel occasione quacunque, tunc debebant; necnon omnia nomina tam debitorum quam creditorum et depositariorum suorum infra sex dies tunc continue sequentes, integre et expresse, nobis in scriptis trade-

me, [know], that my son is not in the country, for he has left the property in charge in Canterbury, and I do not know where, for he has gone on pilgrimage and his return will not take place before Christmas. Dear Sir, do not be displeased at this, for as soon as ever he returns he shall appear before (you), and shall so do that you shall be well satisfied. God be with you, and keep you and give you good life and long.

196.

Greeting. For certain matters which concern us and our Church on the one part, and S. de B. and the other parishioners of the Church of Saint Mary-le-Bow on the other part, respecting the wall of our great stone-house in Chepe, beside the said Church of St. Mary, we send to you our well-beloved R. de Ely, Thomas Edmund, and John Balun, and pray you confidently that you will kindly be pleased to hear, trust, and do that which our said friends, or any one of them, shall explain to you, and ask of you on our part. And please to do this for the love of Saint Thomas, whom at all times you have loved, and much honoured. God be with you, and keep you. Given at Canterbury, on St. Clement's Day, in the year of the reign of our Lord King Edward the twentieth.

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rent fideliter et revelarent, sub pœna excommunicationis majoris incurrenda, si monitionibus nostris hujusmodi non parerent, exceptis quibusdam personis ministrantibus, tunc expressis. Quidam tamen ipsorum, canones latæ sententiæ non intelligentes, verba præscripta minus sane interpretantur, et sophistice aliis exponunt, quæ, juxta intentionem præferentis sententiam sunt intelligenda. Volentes igitur hujusmodi opiniones sophisticas amputare, et nostræ intentionis

or creditors to send in a statement of the monies owing to or by them; and all those who have given, lent, or pledged any of the monastic property to give an account of it.

rectitudinem singulis explicare ex habundanti, monemus primo, monemus secundo, monemus etiam tertio, omnes et singulos hujus congregationis fratres, qui monitionibus nostris præscriptis hactenus parere non curarunt, quatinus omnia ornamenta ecclesiastica, libros, et ciphos, et omnia alia bona quæ habent in moneta vel metallo, aurum vel argentum, qualitercunque adquisita; necnon omnia debita quæ ex causa mutui, seu depositi, vel emptionis seu venditionis, vel alia causa vel colore quocunque debent, quibuscunque personis, et quæ ab aliis quibuscunque sibi debentur; et similiter omnia nomina tam debitorum quam creditorum et depositariorum suorum, infra tres dies continue sequentes, expresse, et integre, et in scriptis, nobis tradant fideliter, et revelent. Alioquin, illos et singulas illorum personas monitionibus nostris hujusmodi non parentes, ex nunc prout ex tunc, majoris excommunicationis sententia, quam in hiis scriptis præferimus, innodamus (exceptis quibusdam personis necessaria Conventui ministrantibus alias expressis); absolutionem horum excommunicatorum, præterquam in mortis articulo, nobis specialiter reservantes.

(Dec. 1326.)

198.—Responsio ad consultationem amici.

L. 130 *b*.

A continuation of the Prior's vague and timid advice to the Archbishop.

Salutem. In hiis quæ michi nuper per bajulum præsentium dicta et scripta fuerant, in parte sum lætatus et in parte tristis effectus. In ea vero parte sum lætatus quod Domina nostra Regina vobis communicare decrevit specialiter velle suum. In ea etiam parte sum tristis effectus quod Princeps imperium et regimen regni sui deserens ad foranea se transtulit, si sit ita, quod Deus avertat. Adventus vester ad Dominam Reginam tanto acceptabilior sibi erit, quod iter vestrum arripuistis antequam litteræ ipsius invitatoriæ, super præmissis, ad vestram notitiam pervene-

runt. Quidam sompniant quod Domina Regina intendit omnes prælatos, et omnes majores, ac multos de communitate regni in proximo convocare, et super arduis negotiis cum ipsis tractare. In cujus tractationis eventum, juxta consilium Apostoli, cautius est ambulandum. Valete, &c. Lectâ littera comburatur.

199.—Littera clausa missa Archiepiscopo pro excusatione parliamenti Londoniis. 3 Jan. (1327).

L. 147 *b*.

The Prior excuses himself from personal attendance in the momentous Parliament by which Edward II. was deposed.

Suo patri. Reverende pater, spero quod in instanti parliamento Londoniis habebitis me excusatum, ex causis necessariis vobis notis. Sufficit enim Conventui et michi id quod, de consilio et consensu vestro, et suffraganeorum vestrorum, ac cleri vestræ provinciæ Cantuariensis, ad honorem Dei et Ecclesiæ, et utilitatem rei publice ibidem contigerit ordinari. Verum ex habundanti Frater Galfridus Potel, et de benevolentia vestra confidentes Hugo de Bysshopeston clericus vester, tanquam procuratores Capituli, primo die cum aliis comparebunt. Et ad devotam instantiam fratrum et filiorum vestrorum vobis supplico confidenter, quod præfatum Galfridum quamcito poteritis expedire velitis, ita quod domi possit redire, pro variis negotiis officio suo contingentibus magis solito hiis diebus; et quod dictus Hugo officium procuratoris super præmissis, ipso Galfrido absente, valeat exercere. Scientes, quod gratum habent et acceptabile singuli fratres vestri, quod domicilia sua apud Newenton, licet tanto domino inproportionabilia, ingredi voluistis et moram ibi facere, pro salvatione bonorum suorum ibidem. Valeat et vigeat salus vestra, quia grandis et lubrica vobis restat via. Script. Cantuar. tertio die Januarii.

4 Jan. 1327.

200.—De procuratore constituto in parliamento.

L. 148 *a*.

Letter addressed to Hugh de Bishopstone, asking him to be the acting proctor for the Chapter in Parliament. A complement to the foregoing letter.

Salutem. Quia timetur quod instans parliamentum Londoniis longa tempora occupabit, constituimus vos una cum Fratre G. Potel procuratores nostros, conjunctim et divisim, in parliamento prædicto. Et quia dictus Frater G. non poterit commode ista vice Londoniis diu morari, pro diversis negotiis officium suum Elemosinariæ contingentibus, dilectionem vestram rogamus, quod locum dicti G. super præmissis tenere velitis, quandocunque contigerit ipsum abesse. Valete, etc. Dat. Cantuar. quarto die Januarii, anno Dni. MCCCXXVJ.

(Jan. 1327.)

201.—De adventu Domini Regis ad parliamentum Londoniis, in crastino Epiphaniæ Domini anno regni Regis Edwardi XX^mo.

L. 148 *a*.

Letter of advice from the Prior

Salutem. Licet duo episcopi ad Dominum Regem nuper fuerunt destinati, ad supplicandum sibi, ex parte

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(7 Jan. 1327).

202.—Forma juramenti prælatorum et magnatum præstiti in Gildehall Londoniarum in Parliamento, in crastino Epiphaniæ Domini, anno ejusdem MCCCXXVJ^to.

L. 148 *a*.

The form of oath administered at the first sitting of the Parliament mentioned in the foregoing letter.

Seignurs. Vous jurrez, qe les corps Ma Dame la Royne Isabel par la grace de Dieu Royne Dengleterre et Edward sun fitz sauvement garderez; et la querele quele unt vers Sire Hughe le Despenser et Mestre Robert de Baldok et lur adherantz ove tut vostre poer meintendrez; et quant vous serez requis bon conseil dorrez; et le conseil qe vous saverez lealment celerez; et les ordinances qe sont faitz et serront faitz en cest parlement fermement garderez; et les fraunchises de la cite de Loundres maintendrez; et

totius communitatis regni, quod ad instans parliamentum Londoniis placeret sibi venire, pro arduis negotiis regni sui ordinandis et disponendis, quæ variis et inopinatis periculis subjacent hiis diebus; et Dominus Rex hujusmodi supplicationibus episcoporum non decreverit adhuc annuere, ut dicitur, prout sperabatur; expedit, ut videtur, quod iterum, ex habundanti, per duos comites, duos barones, quatuor personas de civitatibus et burgis, et quatuor milites de comitatibus, per communitatem totius regni ad hoc specialiter electos, præfatus Dominus Rex publice et sollempniter requiratur, quod ad instans parliamentum veniat, sicut prius. Ita quod non solum per prælatos Ecclesiæ, sed per magnates, proceres, et majores cujuslibet conditionis et status regni sui personaliter et specialiter requiratur super præmissis; ita quod omnia rite fiant antequam ulterius procedatur. Valete. Istam cedulam non aspiciat oculus alienus. Quid autem actum est super præmissis scire desidero potius quam videre.

to the Archbishop, recommending the sending of a second deputation from the Parliament to the King at Kenilworth. This advice probably at the Archbishop's instance was followed by the Parliament.

202.

My Lords. You shall swear that you will safely guard the persons of Our Lady Queen Isabella, by the grace of God Queen of England, and of Edward her son; and that with all your power you will maintain the quarrel which they have against Sir Hugh le Despenser and Master Robert de Baldok and their adherents; that when called upon you will give good counsel; and the secret counsel with which you shall be acquainted you will conceal; that you will firmly keep the ordinances made and to be made in this present parliament; and that you

totes les choses qe sunt faites par cause de la dite querele ove tut vostre poair meintendrez, a vivere et a morir: si Dieux vous eyt et ses seints.

2 Feb. 1327.

L. 148 *b*.

A friend having recommended a person for some place in the service of the Convent, is informed that his candidate has once before been so employed with unsatisfactory results.

203.—De litteris directis Domino R. de Wodehouse pro G(ilberto) de Paris.

Saluz et saunte de corps et de alme. Endroit de ceo qe vous nous avez avant ces houres prie par voz lettres, de assigner a Gilbert de Paris un lieu pur nous servir, desicome cest son soverein desir a demorir devers nous, sicome il dist, des queux lettres vous navez eu nul response; sachez, Sire, qe a voz dites lettres avoms envoye respounse a vous par le dit Gilbert; et si il ne ad mie porte a vous nostre response il nous peise. Et quant a ceo qe il desire a demorir devers nous: sachez, Sire, qe nous pooms bien desporter son service, par ceo qe autre foith quant il estoit en nostre service il ne se paya mie de nostre compaignie, ne son service ne fuist pas convenable pur nous. Et pur ceo vous prioms qe vous nous eyez escusez endroit de ly. A Dieu qi vous gard et quant qe a vous apent. Donez a Canterbirs le secund jour de Fevrier, lan de grace MCCCXXVJ.

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25 Feb. 1327.

L. 148 *b*.

A pensioner, whose pension is in arrear, is reproved for his

204.—Littera reprehensibilis, de pensione Henrici de Cantuaria importune petita.

Salutem. Litteras tuas quas nuper recepimus, inter cetera continentes quod non est nobis honorificum quod, pro hiis quæ certo debentur in termino, tot ad nos post terminum sumptuosæ fieri debeant missiones. Continet etiam tuarum pagina litterarum, quod unus capellanorum nostrorum defecit in loquendo, qui, ut

will maintain the privileges of the city of London; and that you will with all your power maintain all things which shall be done on account of the said quarrel, for life or for death; so help you God and his Saints.

203.

Greeting, and health of body and soul. Concerning that which you have asked for lately in your letters, namely, that an office should be found for Gilbert de Paris in our service, since it is his sovereign desire to dwell with us, as he says, to which letters you have had no answer; know then, Sire, that we have sent an answer to your said letters by the hand of the said Gilbert; and if he has not carried our answer to you we are sorry for it. And as for his wish to dwell with us, know, Sire, that we can well dispense with his service, because once before when he was in our service he was not satisfied with his masters, nor was his service profitable to us. And therefore we pray you to have us excused as far as he is concerned. God be with you, and keep you and all belonging to you. Given, &c.

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expeditionem negotii impediret, dixit nobis, litteram quam nuper super negotiis tuis ultimo nobis misisti, fabulas continere. Ut igitur singulis suprascriptis vera et debita demus responsa; scire te volumus non latere, quod non est tibi honorificum nobis scribere in forma prædicta, quia id quod petis et exigis non est merum debitum, sed subsidium gratuitum, sine causa et absque commodo Ecclesiæ nostræ Cantuariensi. Et bene advertat tua circumspectio, qualiter

importunate endeavours to obtain payment. He is informed that it is not a debt of which he seeks payment, but a

gratuity, to which he has once before resigned his claim.

litteram Capituli, quam ad instantiam Domini Regis diu est habuisti, nobis restituisti, ex certis causis necessariis quas ad præsens silemus, et nos hujusmodi litteram tibi restituimus, de nostra gratia speciali. Nec credit Dominus Rex te aliquam hujusmodi litteram de nobis habere; quia sibi aliquando de hujusmodi negotio fecimus mentionem. Ad secundum articulum tuæ litteræ nobis missæ, dicimus, quod capellani nostri in loquendo non deficiunt, nec sunt muti, licet forsitan litteras tuas, totiens inculcatas, et repetitis vicibus nobis missas, reputent importunas. Et Deum testem vocamus, quod nullus capellanorum nostrorum de hiis quæ ipsis imponis nobis fecit aliquam mentionem. Et ideo non est mirum, si verecundum sit eis quando, sine culpa et sine causa, sibi talia imponuntur. Adhuc Thesaurariis nostris præcepimus negotia tua quamcito poterunt expedire. Dat. Cantuar. xxv^to^ die Februarii, anno Dni. MCCCXXVJ.

Feb. 18 (1327).

Cart. Ant. C. 1294 *a*.

205.—DOMINO PRIORI ECCLESIÆ NOSTRÆ CANTUARIENSIS. PER ARCHIEPISCOPUM CANTUARIENSEM. DE FRATRIBUS SEPARATIS A CONVENTU ET DE MODERATIONE PŒNITENTIÆ FRATRIS J. DE MALDUNE.

Archbishop to Prior, to whom the

Walterus permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus totius Angliæ Primas dilecto filio Domino Priori Ecclesiæ nostræ Christi Cantuariensis, salutem

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12 Mar. 1327.

L. 148 *b*.

206.—LITTERA MISSA DOMINO J. LAUNGE PRO VINIS NOSTRIS FRANCIÆ, ANNO DNI. MCCCXXVJ^to^.

The Prior sends a new power of attorney to his agent in France,

A son trescher et bien ame en Dieu Monsire Johan Lange, Henri Priour del Esglise de Canterbirs, saluz. et la joye perdurable. Sire, pur la bounte et la bone volonte qe vous avez sovent monstre et fait a nous et a nostre Esglise pur lamour Saint Thomas, nous

cum benedictione et gratia Salvatoris. Quum in proximo, favente Altissimo, ad vos, prout ante nostrum de Ecclesia nostra recessum ordinavimus, redire proponimus, visitationem nostram jam inceptam pro viribus completuri; vobis in virtute sanctæ obedientiæ injungimus et mandamus, quatinus omnes et singulos monachos dictæ Ecclesiæ nostræ, quos seorsum a Conventu sequestrari fecimus per decretum, ac vobis sub certa forma custodiendos assignavimus, faciatis sub tuta et salva custodia detineri, prout in Capitulo nostro vobis plenius injunxerimus viva voce. Ita quod nullus eorum aliquatenus de custodia hujusmodi tunc ordinata permittatur exire, nullo colore quæsito, vel ad alicujus rogatum, quousque nos redire contigerit, vel saltem per litteras nostras aliud vobis duxerimus intimandum; proviso tamen quod dictis sequestratis in necessariis sicud aliis de Conventu congrue ministretur. Verumtamen octo fratres quibus erat indictum jejunium panis et aquæ sextis feriis, sicud ad rogatum vestrum eis concessimus, pane, vino seu cerevisia, et potagio illis diebus refici toleramus. Ad Fratrem vero Johannem de Maldon, ratione status quem optinuit in Ecclesia nostra, respectum habentes, volumus quod in persona sua, quatenus poteritis, salva religionis honestate, temperetis rigorem; ita tamen quod septa monasterii non exeat, quousque aliud duxerimus ordinandum. Feliciter valeatis et diu. Scripta apud Cherring xij. Kalendas Martii.

writer communicates the various degrees of rigour which he wishes to be exercised towards certain offending monks

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206.

To his very dear and well-beloved in God Sir John Lange, Henry, Prior of the Church of Canterbury, greeting and lasting joy. Sir, for the generosity and good will which you have often shown and done to us and our Church for love of Saint Thomas, we greatly

and gives him instructions for remitting a balance due to the Convent.

vous mercioms noult, et prioms et prieroms devoutement a Dieu, qe il vous rende pur lamour le dit cors saint. Et solum ceo qe vous nous mandastes par voz lettres, nous enveyoms a vous une procuration novele et une lettre de aquitance pur Pierre Galais. Et vous prioms qe vous plese continuer la bone volonte qe vous avez eu avant devers nous. Et de les deners qe vous avez receu de noz vins de Triel et de Saint Brice et de les recevours le Roi de France a Paris del an de grace MCCCXXV. et XXVJ., voillez prendre pur voz despenses faites pur noz busoignes ceo qe il vous plerra; et le remenaunt de les deners voillez faire chaunger en florins de or, et cels florins voillez mander a nous par Sire Simon de Claxbi, clerk levesque de Norwyz. Et mandez, sil vous plest, par meisme celi et par voz lettres, combien deners vous avez paye pur nous a Gawein le Corder, et lacquitance qe vous avez de ly. A Dieu qi vous garde et quant qe a vous apent. Donez a Canterbirs, le xij. jour de Marz.

Istam litteram portavit Dominus Simon de Claxby, clericus Domini Episcopi Norwycensis, ad dictum Dominum Johannem Launge.

(Mar. 1327.)

L. 149 *a*.

207.—De W. de Notele.

W. de Notele (the Archbishop's cross bearer) has borrowed money from some of the monks of Christ Church, failing to pay his debts at the appointed

W(alterus) Archiepiscopus dilecto filio W. de Notele etc. Nostris auribus nuper insonuit quod tu diversas pecuniarum summas a diversis monachis Ecclesiæ nostræ Christi prædictæ, ignorante Priore, latenter, sub colore mutui, recepisti, usque ad summam circiter quadraginta solidorum; bona fide promittens hujusmodi pecuniam eisdem monachis solvisse ad terminos jam elapsos, quod hactenus facere non curasti, tuo proprio detrahens honori. Volentes igitur indempnitati dictorum filiorum nostrorum et Ecclesiæ nostræ prædictæ prospicere quantum possumus et tenemur, tibi mandamus, firmiter exhortantes, quatinus omnia bona

thank you, and do and shall pray devoutly to God that he may repay you for the love of the said holy body. And, in accordance with what you said in your letters, we send you a new power of attorney and a receipt for Pierre Galais. And we pray you to persevere in your good will which you have hitherto borne to us. And from the sum which you have received for our wines of Triel and St. Brice and from the receivers of the King of France at Paris for the year of grace 1325 and '26, please to take in repayment of your costs incurred for our business whatever will satisfy yourself; and the remainder of the money be pleased to have changed into gold florins, and please send these florins to us by Simon de Claxbi, clerk to the Bishop of Norwich. And also by the same and by your letters please to send word what amount of money you have paid for us to Gawein le Cordier, and his receipt for the same. God be with you and keep you and all belonging to you. Given at Canterbury, the 12th day of March.

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quæ a quibuscunque monachis Ecclesiæ nostræ prædictæ, seu ab aliis ipsorum nomine, absque licencia et assensu dicti Prioris, sub quocunque colore hactenus recepisti, eidem Priori, infra Octabam Pascha proxime venturam, fideliter et integraliter restituere non omittas: alioquin, etc.

time; the Archbishop therefore writes to him a letter of reproof ending with an ominous *alioquin, &c.*

208.—Procuratorium Henrici de Lappeflode. 11 May 1327.

Henricus de Lappeflode habet procuratorium et potestatem, coram quibuscunque judicibus ecclesiasticis, jura et libertates nostras et Ecclesiæ nostræ petendi, defendendi, conservandi, et manutenendi, agendi,

L. 149 *a.*

Memorandum of a power of

attorney given to the agent of the Chapter in Devonshire.

protestandi, proponendi, excipiendi, replicandi, recusandi, testes et instrumenta producendi, crimina et defectus opponendi, in integrum restitutionem et status nostri reformationem, expensas, interesse, et dampnorum

(May 1327.)

L. 149 *a*.

209.—Littera Domini Walteri Archiepiscopi Ballivis et Communitati Cantuariensibus, pro contributione quam petebant a Priore et Conventu.

The Mayor and Commonalty of Canterbury having endeavoured to compel the Convent of Christ Church to contribute to satisfy a demand for soldiers made upon the city, are required to desist by the Archbishop who claims exemption for the Church, all of whose possessions are held in *free alms*.

Chers fitz en Dieu; ascunes gentz nous unt fait entendre, qe entre vous (par colour de une requeste qe nostre Seignur le Roi vous ad fet pur aide aver des gentz armez encontre les Escos, qi ly vient guerrer contre la treugh pendante et entre nous et eaux affermee) avez ordine de charger les terres tenements et rents appropriez al Priour et Covent de nostre Esglise de la Trinite de Canterbirs (les queux il tenent en pure et perpetuele almoigne) a faire contribucion ovesqe vous a trouver les ditz gentz armez; la quele chose unques mye[1] ne fuist faite ne veue, de quey nous avoms moult grande merveille; ne le pooms certeynement crere, qe vous vousissiez issint vostre mere Esglise deshonourer et charger, qi estes a les franchises sustiner et maintenir especialement tenuz, pur les grantz honurs qe vous parmy cele Esglise recevez de jour en autre. Pur quei nous vous requeroms cherementes, en quant qe nous pooms ou savoms, qe vous, eantz regard al Esglise de la Seinte Trinite, et al glorious martir Seint Thomas, et as autres bons cors seints qe y gisent, ne voillez suffrir ne assentir qe tiele desavenante demande soit faite, en prejudice de la dite Esglise de Canterbirs, qi est la pluis sollempne et la pluis franche, come vous bien savez, qi soit desouth la Court de Rome. Et ceo qe

[1] *mes*. MS.

æstimationem petendi et recipiendi, et faciendi ulterius in præmissis quod canonicis convenit institutis. Sub dato Cantuar. xj. die Maii, anno Dni. M°CCC^m°XXVIJ°, post annum completum minime valiturum.

209.

Dear sons in God, some people have given us to understand that among yourselves (under the pretence of a request which our Lord the King has made to you for assistance in men-at-arms against the Scots, who have begun to fight against him in contravention of the truce still in force and established between us and them) you have determined to charge the lands, tenements, and rents appropriated to the Prior and Convent of our Church of the Trinity at Canterbury (which possessions it holds in pure and perpetual alms) to make contribution with you towards the furnishing of the said men-at-arms; which thing was never before seen or heard, respecting which we wonder greatly; nor can we certainly believe that you would thus dishonour and burden your Mother Church, you who are peculiarly bound to sustain and maintain her franchises, on account of the great honour which owing to this Church you receive from day to day. Therefore we earnestly require, as much as we can or know, that you, having regard to this Church of the Holy Trinity, and to the glorious Martyr Saint Thomas, and to the other good and holy bodies which therein lie, will not allow nor agree that such an unbecoming demand shall be made, to the prejudice of the said Church of Canterbury, which is the most solemn and the freest as

le Seint Esprit vous mettra en quoer de faire en ceo cas nous voillez remander par voz lettres et par le portour de cestes, ou par ascun de voz, issi qe nous puissioms pleinementes saver lentencion de vostre demande, et conseiller sur ceo ovesqe nostre Priour et nostre Chapitre, qi ferront a vous bonement quant il deveront par reson, et purront sanz perpetuel blemissement de lur estat. Et en meyne temps ne suffrez riens estre fait qe soit desavenant ne prejudiciel a nostre Esglise, etc.

(May 1327.)

L. 149 *b*.

210.—Responsio Ballivorum et Communitatis Cantuariensium ad litteram prædictum.

The citizens of Canterbury reply to the previous letter, that the Convent owns certain tenements in the city which have always been considered liable to pay such contributions as are now demanded.

A lur tresexcellent Seignur et Piere en Dieu Sire Water, par la grace de Dieu Arcevesqe de Canterbirs, etc., ses humbles et devoutz fitz espiritels Baillifs et Citeins de Canterbirs se recommendent prestz et appareillez a vos commandementz. Tres honourable Seignur, come nous eyoms receu bref nostre Seignur le Roi de faire venir de noz gentz armez a chival en eide de nostre dit Seignur le Roi atantz come nostre poer estendreit, issint qe ils fuissent a Noef Chastel sur Tyne le Luyndi proschein avant Lassencion Nostre Seigneur drein passe, a nos custages ; et sur ceo done vous est entendre, qe nous deverioms charger le Priour et le Covent de la Trinite de Canterbire de faire contribucion a nous al avantdit eide performir, pur les terres et tenementz qil tenent deinz nostre franchise. Par quey vous nous avez mande par Sire Johan de Toniford voz graciouses lettres, conseillantz et enpriantz qe nous ne vousissoms tant mesprendre vers nostre Mere Esglise, et qe nous deverioms surser un temps, tant qe vous purrez conseiller sur ceo ovesqe le dit Priour et vostre Chapitre.

1er Article. A vostre treshaut seignurie fesoms savoir qe nous entendoms qe les ditz Priour et Covent

well you know, to be found in subjection to the Court of Rome. And what the Holy Spirit shall put into your hearts to do in this case, let us know it by your letters and by the bearer of these, or by one of your own people; so that we may be able to learn the scope of your demand, and confer upon it with our Prior and our Chapter, who will deal favourably with you as far as they ought with justice, and can without perpetual injury to their estate. In the meantime do not allow anything to be done which may be unbecoming or prejudicial to our Church, &c.

210.

To their very excellent Lord and Father in God Sir Walter, by the grace of God Archbishop of Canterbury, &c., his humble and devout spiritual children, the Bailiffs and Citizens of Canterbury recommend themselves ready and prepared for your commands. Most honourable Lord, having received a writ from our Lord the King (commanding us), to send some of our people armed and mounted in aid of our said Lord the King as many as our power may reach, so that they should be at Newcastle-upon-Tyne at our expense, on the Monday next before the Ascension of Our Lord last past; and hereupon it is given to you to understand that we feel bound to charge the Prior and Convent of the Trinity in Canterbury to make contribution to us, for the performing of the said aid, because of the lands and tenements which they hold within our franchise. On which account you have sent to us your gracious letters, advising and praying that we should not wish so to misbehave ourselves towards our Mother Church, and that we should refrain ourselves for a time until you might consult upon this matter with the said Prior and your Chapter.

1st Article. We give your most high lordship to know, that we understand that the said Prior and

de droit nous sont tenuz a tiel contribucion faire, et a semblable, desicome par diverses charges et oppressions nous sumes ariretz; et ja ne nous deignerent de leur relever.

2nd Article. Et si unt dedeinz nostre franchise cc. liveretz de rente et v. acres de terre, qe furent in ascun temps a la dite cite contribuaires.

3m Article. Par quey Sire, nous voillez de mesprisione, si pleiser vous soit, avoir pur escusez. Et Sire, en pleysaunce de vous, et pur la bone diligence qe le dit Sire Johan, qi est un de nous, ymist, entour ceste busoigne, nous

4m Article. avoms sursis tantqe ycest Mardy, et si est la chose moult hastif et la demoere perillous. A Dieu Sire qi vous meintene en bone saunte.

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27 May 1327.

L. 150 *a*.

211.—Secunda Littera Domini W(alteri) Archiepiscopi dictis Ballivis et communitati Cantuariensibus pro eadem.

The Archbishop, after a discussion with his counsel, leaves the final settlement of the dispute to the honour of the citizens; furnishing them with a written statement of the arguments in favour of exempt-

Watier par la grace de Dieu Arcevesqe de Canterbirs, etc., a ses chers fitz en Dieu les Baillifs et la comminalte de Canterbirs, saluz, ove la benediction de Dieu et la nostre. Nous recumes voz lettres a Cherringg y ceo Mardi proschein apres la feste del Ascension Nostre Seignur Jesu Crist; et voilantz qe enter droit vous soit fait sur vostre demande tant come reson et droit suffrent, sanz perpetuel prejudice de nostre Esglise, avoms pleynement charge et debatu devant nostre conseil ove plein deliberacion tote la matire de voz lettres susdites, et la cause ensemblement ove la forme de vostre demande; et avoms trove par sufficiens et notoires evidences, ceo qe est contenu en une bile la quele nous vous mandoms enclos dedeins cestes; issi qe si vous par colour de ley et de reson

Convent are by law bound to us to make such a contribution, and such like; inasmuch as we are behind hand through divers charges and oppressions, and still they have not designed to relieve us from them.[1]

2nd Article. And as they have within our franchise, the amount of two hundred pounds of rent and five acres of land, which were at all times contributory to the said city.

3rd Article. Wherefore Sire, if it be your pleasure have us excused from misunderstanding. And Sire, for your pleasure and for the good diligence which the said Sir John, who is one of us, has employed about this business.

4th Article. We have paused until this Tuesday, and therefore the affair is most pressing and delay dangerous God be with you, Sire, and maintain you in good health.

211.

Walter, by the grace of God Archbishop of Canterbury, &c., to his dear sons in God the Bailiffs, and the commonalty of Canterbury, greeting, with God's blessing and ours. We have received your letters at Charing on this Tuesday after the feast of the Ascension of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and desiring that entire right should be done upon your demand, as far as justice and law allow, without perpetual injury to our Church, we have fully declared and discussed before our counsel, with mature deliberation, all the matter of your letters abovementioned, and at the same time both the cause and the form of your demand; and we have found, by sufficient and notorious evidences, that which is contained in a schedule which we send you enclosed in these presents; so that if you can by colour of law and justice, notwith-

[1] The exact sense here escapes us.

ing the Church from payment.

puissez, noun contresteant ceo qe nous vous allegoms en cele bile, de droit demander aide et contribucion des terres ou des rentes de nostre Esglise; adonqs, sil vous plest, amiablement nous le facez assaver, qe nous sumes en volonte (tout vousissent ceaux de nostre Esglise autre fair), de fair a vous quant qe apent estre fait solum Dieu et reson. Et si, treschers fitz, trove soit qe ceo qe nous pur nostre Esglise alleggoms soit sufficient et resonable, adonqs, pur le honur de Dieu et de Sainte Esglise, voillez curteisement surser, et nous ordeineroms, si Dieu plest, sur ceo si curteisement qe vous enserrez payez. Sur quey voillez crere al portour de cestes, a qi nous avoms dit nostre volonte, la quele il dirra devant ascuns de voz queux vous voillez a ceo assigner, et par meisme le portour nous voilles voz volontes remander, ou par ascun de voz. Et en meyne temps si vous plest peisiblement suffrir sanz grevance faire a nostre Esglise. Escript a Cherring le Meskerdi apres Lascension, lan de grace MCCCXXVIJ.

1327.
L. 169 *a*.

212.—Gravamina illata Priori et Conventui per Willelmum de Chileham quondam Ballivium de Cantuaria et quosdam complices suos, anno Dni. M°CCC^mo^XXVIJ°.

A list of injuries with which the Convent was threatened when the monks were boycotted for refusing to join the citizens of

Memorandum quod anno, Dni. M^mo^CCC°XXVIJ^mo^., Regis Edwardi tertii primo, Dominus Rex mandavit Ballivis et Civibus Cantuariæ, rogando quod facerent sibi subsidium de aliquibus equitibus armatis pro guerra sua contra Scotos, et, quod hujusmodi equites, sumptibus ipsorum civium, mitterent apud Novum Castrum super Tynam et non ultra. Et, habito tractatu inter communitatem civitatis prædictæ, concesserunt mittere Domino Regi xij. equites armatos, in forma

standing that which we allege in this schedule, lawfully demand aid and contribution from the lands or rents of our Church, then if you please, you will kindly let us know it, for we are desirous (however much those of our Church may wish to do otherwise) to do for you whatever behoves to be done according to God and reason. And very dear sons, if it be found that that which we allege is sufficient and reasonable, then, for the honour of God and of Holy Church, please to refrain yourselves, and we will then decide, if God pleases, upon this matter, so that you shall be satisfied. On which subject please to give credence to the bearer of these, to whom we have communicated our wishes, which he will tell to you in the presence of some of your people whom you may assign for this purpose, and by the same messenger, or by one of your own, please to send us your wishes. And in the meantime be pleased peaceably to wait without causing distress to our Church.

Written at Charing, the Wednesday after Ascension, in the year of grace 1327.

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prædicta. Postea, die Veneris, videlicet, ix° kalendas Junii, populares homines civitatis prædictæ miserunt ad Priorem Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, quod faceret eis contributionem de terris et redditus suis, et omnibus aliis bonis suis existentibus in civitate et suburbio, pro expensis hujusmodi equitum armatorum. Et responsum fuit eis, quod progenitores Domini Regis nunc, quondam Reges Angliæ, in fundo et fundamento palatii sui regalis fundaverunt Ecclesiam Cantuariensem, in nomine Jesu Christi, et ipsam Ecclesiam, ut puram et perpetuam elemosinam, de regia munificentia dotaverunt, absque aliquo onere vel seculari servitio quibuscunque mortalibus faciendo. Et ideo prædicti Prior et Conventus absque consensu et consilio Domini

Canterbury in equipping an armed force to assist the King in his Scottish war.

Regis Angliæ, qui est fundator et patronus specialis Ecclesiæ Christi prædictæ, et Domini Archiepiscopi Cantuariensis, qui est pastor et pater specialis ejusdem Ecclesiæ, non potuerunt statum antiquum et liberam conditionem Ecclesiæ prædictæ immutare.

Postea die Jovis, videlicet, quinto kalendas Junii, Willelmus de Chileham, tunc Ballivus Cantuariæ, et populares homines de Cantuaria in cimiterio Fratrum Prædicatorum Cantuariæ convenerunt, et inter se ordinaverunt, quod, nisi Prior et Conventus prædicti vellent contribuere cum ipsis de omnibus terris, redditibus, et omnibus bonis suis prædictis, quod omnia penticia et fenestras Prioris et Conventus Ecclesiæ prædictæ in Burgate, et omnes molendinos suos in civitate Cantuaria et juxta, demollirent et ad terram prosternerent.

Item: Quod proclamari facerent, sub pœna baniationis et exilii, quod nullus de civitate vel suburbio domos prædictorum Prioris et Conventus Cantuariæ habitaret.

Item: Quod omnes redditus dictorum Prioris et Conventus in civitate et suburbio, qui se extendunt usque ad cc. marcas et ultra, levari facerent et colligeri, ad opus ipsorum popularium civitatis.

Item: Quod sub pœnis prædictis facerent prohiberi, quod nullus de civitate vel suburbio daret, venderet, nec mitteret, Priori et Conventui Ecclesiæ prædictæ cibum, nec potum, nec alia victualia qualiacunque.

Item: Si equi vel carectæ de maneriis dictorum Prioris et Conventus cum aliquibus victualibus venirent in Cantuariam, quod statim equos, carectas, et victualia caperent et exponerent venditioni.

Item: Si Prior vel aliquis monachus Ecclesiam vel portam exiret, quod omnibus bonis et indumentis suis ipsos spoliarent, et personas attachiarent.

Item: Quod fossatum facerent profundum extra portas quod nullus exiret nec intraret.

Item: Quod nullus peregrinus ecclesiam Cantuariensem intraret, nisi prius juraret quod nullam oblationem faceret ad feretrum gloriosi martyris Thomæ, nec alibi in ecclesia pradicta.

Item: Quilibet hujusmodi popularium hominum juravit se velle habere de feretro Sancti Thomæ pro quolibet digito utriusque manus suæ unum anulum aureum de melioribus anulis prædicti feretri Sancti Thomæ.

213.—De Contributione quam petunt Cives Cantuariensis.

28 May 1327.

L. 150 *b*.

The Prior writes to the Archbishop and shows no intention of yielding as the Archbishop does in a preceding letter, which had not come under the Prior's eye when the present was written.

Suo patri. De actibus erroneis civium Cantuariensium quos facere comminantur nichil audivi adhuc in facto; sed quamcito mihi constiterit quod ad aliquod factum erroneum processerint, vobis protinus nuntiabo. Et si in malitia sua perstiterint, non video finale remedium nisi per auctoritatem et potestatem Domini Regis nostri, cujus progenitores, reges Angliæ illustres, in fundo et fundamento palatii sui Cantuariensem ecclesiam fundaverunt, in nomine Jesu Christi, et ipsam Ecclesiam in puram et perpetuam elemosinam de regia munificentia dotaverunt, faciendo ipsi Jesu Christo, pro ipsis fundatoribus et eorum liberis, servitia spiritualia et sacrificia salutaria imperpetuum, absque aliquo onere et servitio seculari quibuscunque mortalibus impendendis. Hujusmodi vero laudabile statum antiquum, et liberam conditionem Ecclesiæ Christi non possum nec audeo, absque consensu patroni et fundatoris Ecclesiæ, in aliquo minuere vel mutare. Et super hiis si placet deliberare velitis in consilio vestro, et deliberationem vestram in hac parte mihi, cum vobis placuerit, significare. Script. apud Godmersham in octabis Ascensionis.

(May 1327).

214.—Protectio specialis.

L. 150 *b*.

A royal writ of special protection given (or to be given) to Christ Church. From the identity of the words in which the foundation and office of the church are described here and in the previous letter, it would appear that they came from the same pen; in which case the present form would be one submitted to the King for his approval.

Edwardus, etc. Omnibus, etc. Cum progenitores nostri, quondam reges Angliæ illustres, in fundo et fundamento palatii sui regalis, Ecclesiam Cantuariensem fundaverunt in nomine Jesu Christi, et ipsam Ecclesiam ut in liberam puram et perpetuam elemosinam de regia munificentia dotaverunt, faciendo Christo et toti Sanctæ Trinitati pro ipsis fundatoribus et eorum liberis servitia spiritualia et sacrificia salutaria incessanter, absque aliquo onere vel servitio seculari quibuscunque mortalibus impendendis; nos fundator et patronus Ecclesiæ Christi prædictæ, ob devotionem quam gerimus ad Benedictam Trinitatem, et ad gloriosum martyrem Thomam, cujus corpus in dicta ecclesia requiescit, suscepimus in protectionem et defensionem nostram specialem dilectos nobis in Christo Priorem et Conventum Ecclesiæ Christi, homines, terras, res, redditus, et omnes possessiones suas. Et prohibemus sub gravi forisfactura nequis, infra libertatem vel extra, de personis, rebus, vel bonis mobilibus et immobilibus prædictis, absque speciali præcepto nostro se intromittat, vel ad eam manus imponat contra voluntatem Prioris et Conventus Ecclesiæ Christi prædictæ. Dat. &c.

27 May (1327).

215.—Domino Priori Ecclesiæ nostræ Cantuariensis. Per Archiepiscopum Cantuariensem.

Cart. Ant. C. 1294 *b*.

Archbishop to Prior. Pressure having been put upon the King he has ordered the release

Walterus, permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, totius Angliæ Primas, dilecto in Christo filio Domino H. Priori Ecclesiæ nostræ Christi Cantuariensis salutem, gratiam, et benedictionem. Quia salubrius sencimus pœnam delinquentium mitigare quam sectando juris rigorem ultra modum sævire, ne timidis aut formidolosis desperationis præstemus materiam,

aut ultra quam convenit puniamus innocentes; et quia illustris Regis et domini nostri Domini Regis Angliæ litteras recepimus, quarum transcriptum præsentibus interclusum vobis duximus transmittendum; vobis significamus quod, quidam burgenses de Sandwyco, et alii quidam milites et scutiferi de dicto Domino Rege speciales, adeo importune penes Dominum nostrum Regem institerunt, quod, cum de ipsis inevitabiliter in proximo facere habeat ut dubitat, nullo modo resistere potuerat, quin pro liberatione fratrum infrascriptorum nobis scribere compelleretur. Nos vero, juxta juris exigentiam, dicto Domino Regi precibus, tam verbaliter quam litteratorie, specialissime, iteratis vicibus, nobis porrectis, finaliter resistere non valentes ullo modo, vobis mandamus, quatinus fratres Thomam de Sandwyco, Robertum de Alyndon, et Johannem de Valoyns a carcerali custodia, visis præsentibus, liberari faciatis. Valete in Christo qui vos custodiat per dies prosperos et longævos. Scripta apud Lameht vj^to^ kalendas Junii.

of the monks who were subjected to discipline at the Archbishop's visitation. Unwillingly obliged to obey the royal command the latter therefore directs the Prior to remit their punishment.

(In dorso.)

Istam litteram recepimus primo die Junii, per manus Gilberti, Granatoris de Westmonasterio, vesperis decantatis, pro deliberatione J. de Valoyns, Th. de Sandwyco, et R. de Aledone a custodia carcerali, in præsentia Fratrum Thomæ Stoyl, Dyonisii, et Willelmi de Eastry commonachorum.

216.—De adventu Hanoniensium in Angliam pro guerra Scociæ. 6 June 1327.

L. 150 *b*.

Suo Patri. Sub secreto silentio vobis scribo, quod adventum Hanoniensium in Angliam pro guerra Scociæ hiis diebus, ante adventum suum, habui, pro modulo meo, suspectum; tum, quia ipsorum adventus supponit impotentiam Domini Regis ac procerum et populi regni sui proditoribus suis Scociæ resistendi;

The Prior informs the Archbishop that, for reasons which he gives, he

disapproves of the employment in the Scottish war of the Hainaulters whom the young King has taken into his service.

tum, quia si Dominus Rex possit suis hostibus in Scocia triumphare, dicti Hanonienses hujusmodi victoriam jam sibi ascribent; tum, quia Dominus Rex fecit, ut dicitur, proclamari, quod quilibet habeat id quod perquirere et conquirere poterit in partibus Scociæ ista vice, de ipso, tanquam de domino capitali, immediate tenendum; et si dicti Hanonienses perquirere et conquirere terras aliquas in partibus Scociæ poterunt hiis diebus, periculum erit Domino Regi et heredibus suis tales habere homines et tenentes; tum quia inter Anglicos et præcipue boreales, qui oculos habent sublimes, et dictos Hanonienses, sicut inter personas discolas, de facili dissentio poterit exoriri, et pro hujusmodi dissensione totum negotium Scociæ retardari. Progressum vero vestrum ad partes de Maghefeld, pro ampliori consolatione vestra post labores vestros intolerabiles quos hactenus sustinuistis, videtur mihi esse prudenter et sagaciter ordinatum. Et siquæ nova notabilia interim vel tunc vobis occurrerint, placeat vobis significare, more solito, mihi vestro, et eadem vicissitudine ea quæ audiero vobis scribam. Valeat et prospere vigeat dominus meus pater et pastor. Scriptum Cantuariæ vij^mo die Junii.

8 June (1327).

L. 151 *a*.

217.—De certificatione correctionum Fratrum in visitatione.

The Prior asks the Archbishop to search the register of his visitation, so that he may be able to state positively what corrections

Salutem. Quia novæ quædam fumositates pululant inter fratres de vasis argenteis de refectorio et de camera Prioris latenter ablatis, et aliis dampnis factis in dormitorio, et alibi in ecclesia, paulo ante ultimam visitationem vestram; non possum nec volo fumositates hujusmodi subreptantes aliqualiter diffinire sine consilio vestro et informatione pleniori. Quocirca paternitatem vestram suppliciter deprecor et exoro, quatinus examinare velitis rotulos visitationis vestræ, et de correctionibus factis super compertis in visitatione

vestra, et, præcipue, si aliqua correctio specialiter facta fuerit de his vasis argenteis et dampnis prædictis factis tempore visitationis vestræ, et si sic, de quibus personis et ex quibus causis; quia in dubium periculum est michi certam viam tenere. Vestrum michi si placet super hiis beneplacitum notificetis. Præmissa vobis scribo ad tollendum a vobis omnem occasionem turbationis et inquietudinis mentis vestræ. Valeat et prospere vigeat salus vestra. Scriptum Cantuariæ viij^{vo} die Junii.

he directed to be inflicted upon the persons implicated in certain offences then detected.

218.—De eodem ut supra.

10 June (1327).

L. 150 *a*.

Salutem. Littera vestræ paternitatis ultimo michi transmissa de incerto me reddidit magis incertum; videlicet, ex eo quod in eadem littera continetur, quod omnia in vestra visitatione comperta ante recessum vestrum in mea præsentia terminastis, personis delinquentibus pœnitentias canonicas injungendo. Nimirum memoriter recolo quod, finitis visitationis et examinationum vestrarum processibus, vocatisque, prout moris est, me et senioribus fratribus coram vobis pro correctionibus faciendis de insolentiis in visitatione vestra compertis, sex fratres a communi fratrum consortio separastis, sed certam causam vel causas separationis hujusmodi nullatenus expressistis. Et quia dispendiosa destructio vasorum argenteorum et aliorum bonorum communium Ecclesiæ, de quibus nuperrime vobis scripsi, notoria tunc extitit et manifesta, et adhuc in præsenti clamitat in plateis, nec hactenus hujusmodi ablatorum est aliqua restitutio subsecuta, videtur Conventui, ex causis prædictis, quod de vasis argenteis et aliis bonis prædictis fraudulenter sublatis adhuc debita correctio non est facta, sed, ut dicunt fratres non pauci, verius dissimulata. Et pro certo teneatis si placet quod hujusmodi fumositas, inopinate pullulans inter fratres, ab oculis ipsorum et cordibus non abstergetur, donec ipsis plenius

The Prior complains to the Archbishop that his answer to the foregoing letter is incomplete and unsatisfactory

constiterit si de hujusmodi vasis argenteis et aliis bonis, ut præmittitur, dissipatis, specialis et debita facta fuerit correctio, in ultima visitatione vestra, juxta canonicas sanctiones. Cum enim de salute animarum agitur, qua nichil optabilius in hac vita reperitur, non est aliqualiter dissimulandum, quia tanto graviora sunt crimina, quanto diutius infelices animas detinent captivatas. Et ideo ne hujusmodi fumigatio, quam dissimulare non potero licet vellem, flammas ardentes et urentes producat, placeat vobis super præmissis aliquid certum rescribere michi vestro. Sufficit enim michi scire veritatem, si correctio per vos facta fuerit, vel non, de dampnis prædictis Ecclesiæ fraudulenter illatis. Scriptum Cantuariæ x^mo die Junii.

June (1327).

L. 151 *b*.

On the same subject.

218A.—De eodem quo supra.

Suo patri. Instanter pulsantis importuna petitio multos frequenter excitat et inducit concedere petentibus postulata, et maxime quæ a rationis tramite non deviant, et salutem respiciunt animarum. Ecce pater, super quibusdam negotiis, curam et sollicitudinem vestram et meam tangentibus, ac inseparabiliter nostris humeris incumbentibus, vos nuper consulendo rogare, et rogando consulere, vicibus repetitis, urgens necessitas me coegit; et præcipue si aliqua correctio per vos

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2 July 1327.

L. 157 *b*.

219.—Littera missa H. de Lappeflode ballivo de Dockumb contra tenentes ibidem.

The distant Manor of Doccombe in Devonshire has, through the neglect

A son trescher et bien ame en Dieu H. de Lappeflode, tenant le leu nostre seneschal en le counte de Deveneschire, Henri Priour del Esglise, etc., saluz. Sachez qe, le ij^m jour de Juil, Johan Pope nous bailia une lettre patente enseale de xij. seals tuz de une cire; et les vij. seals furent tuz de une forme, et les

specialiter facta fuerit in ultima visitatione vestra, de vasis argenteis de refectorio et locis aliis dolose sublatis, et de dampnis aliis in ecclesia et dormitorio notorie factis, paulo ante visitationem vestram prædictam; super quibus sine examinatione rotulorum hujusmodi visitationis vestræ ad plenum non poteritis informari. Verum quia per Magistrum R. de Weston, clericum vestrum, juxta credentiam suam michi expositam intellexi, quod, examinatis rotulis visitationis vestræ prædictæ, super omnibus in hac parte compertis pariter et correctis, decrevistis me, vestri gratia, certificare sine dispendio moræ majoris; sciat vestra paternitas dominativa quod fama fumigans et vehementer suspecta, quæ per visitationem vestram credebatur extincta fuisse, jam in conscienciis multorum fratrum pululans revirescit; et timeo quod clamosa fratrum instantia me constringet de dampnis prædictis diligenter inquirere veritatem, nisi plenius michi constiterit si in visitatione vestra prædicta facta fuerit debita correctio super præmissis. Sufficit enim michi scire quid in visitatione vestra super hiis compertum fuerit et correctum. Et quia informationem vestram super præmissis fiducialiter expecto, beneplacitum vestrum in hac parte velitis michi vestro, quanto citius tanto melius, significare. Valete, etc. Scriptum Cantuariæ, xxviij. die Junii.

219.

To his dear and well-beloved in God H. de Lappeflode, deputy of our seneschal in the county of Devonshire Henry, Prior of the Church, &c., greeting. Know, that on the second of July John Pope gave us a letter patent sealed with twelve seals, all made of one kind of wax, of which seven seals were all of one form, and five all of another

of the Seneschal, whose duties are performed by deputy, been less profitable to the Convent than it ought to have been; the Prior therefore gives instructions to the *locum tenens* of Seneschal.

v. seals furent tuz de une altre forme. Et par ceo qe en la dite lettre sunt contenuz moult des choses contre nous et contre lestat de nostre Esglise, nous enveyoms a vous le transcript de meisme cele lettre par le dit Johan Pope; et la lettre enseale nous retendroms devers nous, desques atant qe vous vynez a nous a Canterbire a la feste de Seint Michel, sicome vous nous avez promis nadgeres par voz lettres. Et nous voloms qe totes nos terres qe noz vileyns tenent de nous a Dockumb a nostre volonte demoerent tuz jours en la meyn, et en la garde, de aucun de noz vileyns demeigne, a tenir a nostre volonte, solum ceo qe vous verrez qe ceo soit afaire a nostre profit; et qe noz dites terres ne soient baillez a nul frank home, ne a nul vileyn qi soit de autre seignurie qe de nostre, tut voille il pluis doner qe un de noz vileyns demeigne. Et nous mandoms qe vous ne baillez nostre terre de Dockumb a nul home qi la demande par droit et par descente de heritage. Et par ceo qe noz vylenis de Dockumbe qi sont taillables a nostre volente ne furent grant temps passe taillez, nous voloms qe a la feste de Seint Michel proschein avenir facez taxer et priser tuz les chatels et biens moebles qe il averont en cel temps; et qe vous facez lever de chescun mark, de lur biens et de lur chatels moebles, xij. deners, a nostre oeps come taillage, pur continuer nostre dreit. Et cel taillage, et la rente, et les issues de nostre terre de Dockumbe de cest an, nous facez aver a pluistost come vous purrez apres la feste de Seint Michel. A Dieu qi vous gard, et quant qe a vous apent. Donez a Canterbirs le jour avantdit, lan del regne le Roi Edward terz apres le Conquerour premier. Et facez escrire en un roule touz les nouns de touz noz homes et noz tenantz de Dockumbe qi sunt ore en vie; et cel roule nous facez aver a pluistost come vous purrez.

form. And because there were contained in the said letter many things against us, and against the welfare of our Church, we send you a copy of this same letter by the hand of the said John Pope, but the sealed letter we shall retain with us until you come to us at Canterbury at Michaelmas, as you have lately promised to do by your letters. And we desire that all our lands held from us by our bondmen at Dockombe may remain in the hands and in the keeping of some of our own bondmen, to be held at our will according as you may see will be for our profit; and that our said lands may not be entrusted to any freeman, nor to any bondman belonging to any lordship other than ours, even if he should be willing to pay more than one of our own bondmen. And we command that you do not let our land at Dockombe to any one who demands it as a right, or by any hereditary claim. And because our bondmen at Dockombe (who are liable to be taxed at our will) have not been taxed for a long time, we desire that at Michaelmas next coming, you let them be taxed, and their chattels and moveable goods which they may have at that time to be appraised, and that for every mark of their goods and moveable chattels, you cause twelve pence to be levied for our use by way of taillage, in order to keep alive our right. And let us have this taillage, and the rent, and the profits of our land at Dockombe for this year as soon as you can after Michaelmas. God be with you and keep you, and all belonging to you. Given at Canterbury on the day above written, in the first year of the reign of King Edward, the third after the Conquest. And let the names of all our men and our tenants of Dockombe who are now alive be written in a roll, and let us have this roll as soon as you can.

15 July (1327).

L. 152 *a*.

220.—Responsio ad litteram R. de Pottesgrave, de redditu W(alteri) Colpeper.

The attorney of the Convent in the Royal Exchequer has received in their name fifty-three shillings,

Saluz. Pur ceo qe nous avoms entendu par voz lettres, les quels nous recumes le xiiij^{m} jour de Juyl a Canterbire, qe vous avez allowance sur vostre acounte al Escheker de liij. souz de rente qe nous est due de la terre W. Colpeper en Estfarleigh et Lose, nous vous prioms qe vous nous enveyez les liij. souz, si vous veez qe ceo soit afair, sanz delay; et nous en-

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(July 1327.)

L. 152 *a*.

221.—Littera missa Magistro J. de Mallyngg in Curia pro Thoma de Sandwico.

The Prior's agent in the Roman Curia is warned to be on his guard against the proceedings of a fugitive Canterbury monk, who will probably appear at the Curia.

Amantissimo sibi in Christo Magistro Johanni de Mallingg procuratori suo in Curia, Henricus permissione divina Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, salutem, et totius salutis Auctorem. Hostis antiquus, sedens in insidiis, corda fidelium frequenter perturbat, dum electis Dei in veritate ambulantibus arctas ponit insidias, et dilatat' vias lubricas reproborum. Ecce karissime, Thomas de Sandwico, nuper confrater et commonachus Ecclesiæ nostræ prædictæ, nunc autem apostata et fugitivus, xj^{o} die Julii proxime præterito, non petita licentia nec optenta, de monasterio nostro, excommunicatus, perjurus, et irregularis latenter recessit, fugiens nemine persequente. Et ideo dilectionem vestram rogamus, quod, si prædictus apostata ad Curiam venerit ad aliquid proponendum, petendum, vel impetrandum, exceptis hiis quæ ad salutem animæ suæ pertinent, sibi modis omnibus et viis quibus poteritis resistatis; et hoc omnibus amicis nostris in Curia quibus videritis expedire communicetis; et rescribatis nobis per latorem præsentium, vel alium ad partes nostras proximo venturum, in quo statu sunt causæ et negotia in Curia mota inter venerabilem patrem Dominum Archiepiscopum et Priorem et Capitulum Norwycenses.

verroms a vous une acquitancę de tant deners recue de vous. Autrement il nous convendra prier les Barons del Escheker, qe nous puissioms avoir la veue de touz les allowementz qe vous sont allowez sur vostre aconte de toutes choses qi touchent nous et nostre Esglise, et purchacer remedie de la Court, qe touz les deners qe vous sont allowez pur nous nous soient renduz. Sur cestes choses nous remandez sanz delay vostre volonte solum ceo qe vous verrez qe soit afaire a vostre honur. A Dieu qi vous gard. Donez a Canterbirs, le xv. jour de Juyl.

allowed out of the rent of W. Colepeper the executed traitor, and has not remitted the sum. This letter requires him to send in his balance and his statement of account.

220.

Greeting. Whereas we have understood by your letters (which we received on the fourteenth of July at Canterbury) that you have an allowance made on your account in the Exchequer, of fifty-three shillings, being the rent which is due to us from the land of W. Colepeper in East Farleigh, and Loose, we pray you that you will send us these fifty-three shillings without delay, if you can see your way to doing so, and we will send you an acquittance for so much cash received from you. Otherwise it will behove us to petition the Barons of the Exchequer to allow us to inspect the account of all the allowances made to you on your account, in all things which concern us and our Church, and to procure a remedy from the Court, so that all the money allowed to you for us may be paid to us. Send to us in reply without delay your will in these matters, according to what you see is best to be done for your honour. God be with you, who keep you. Given at Canterbury the 15th day of July.

21 July (1327).

222.—De exitu et reversione Thomæ de Sandwico.

L. 152 *b*.

Prior to Archbishop. The fugitive monk above mentioned will be received again into his monastery if he be penitent and make restitution of the goods stolen by him.

Suo patri, salutem illam quæ neminem fallit nec falli potest. Inter omnia verba credenciæ quæ Magister R. de W(eston), clericus vester sagax et discretus, michi nuper exposuit ex parte vestra, illud nimirum magis animam meam tæduit vitæ meæ, quod credebatis (absit quod credatis) quod comperta et correcta, quæ michi in ultima visitatione vestra sub secreto silentio revelastis, aliis patefeci. Utinam lingua et labia mea primitus abscissa fuissent. Recedant igitur ista, si placet, de corde vestro, nec aliquando redeant sine causa. Valeat et prospere vigeat vita vestra. Scriptum Cantuariæ vigilia Sanctæ Mariæ Magdalenæ.

Adhuc, pater, si Thomas de Sandwico ad Ecclesiam Cantuariensem redire voluerit, et facere ea quæ ad ordinem et religionem spectant, paratus sum et ero, quantum in me est, ipsum Thomam recipere ad habitum et religionem, pro majori scandalo vitando, et animæ suæ salute. Et proculdubio decet et expedit quod præfatum Thomam literatorie moneatis et efficaciter inducatis, quod ad Ecclesiam Cantuariensem, de qua sine causa legitima nuper recessit, redeat indilate, et omnia bona Ecclesiæ quæ in recessu suo secum abstulit restituat, ut tenetur; et tunc nullus poterit regressum et ingressum suum rationabiliter impedire. Hujusmodi vero injunctiones in casu consimili sancti patres antiqui fieri statuerunt.

30 July (1327).

223.—De eodem quo supra.

L. 152 *b*.

The Prior to the Archbishop. He has directed

Suo patri. Litteras paternitatis vestræ hac die Mercurii proxime præterita apud Clyve juxta Rotfam recepi, per manus Magistri R. de Weston clerici vestri. Et quia decet et expedit quod ardua negotia de communi fratrum consilio et assensu tractentur, et

contra voluntatem Conventus nichil finaliter terminetur, ita quod pacifice et quiete omnia procedant; statim mandavi Suppriori quod tractaret cum fratribus (non statim in Capitulo, set primo seorsum) quod de aliqua via competenti et certa ordinarent, per quam Thomas de Sandwico ad suum statum possit readmitti, et hoc modo mitiore et honestiore, et cum minori rigore quo possent, pro scandalo vitando; ita quod status ejusdem Thomæ perpetuo non confundatur. Et quia, licet contra certa et expressa regularia ordinis instituta aliquid directe fieri non debeat; tamen rigor observanciarum et consuetudinum religiosarum, quæ sunt arbitrariæ, bene poterit, ex certis causis, moderari, pro scandalo evitando, mandavi etiam eidem, quod deliberationem Conventus super præmissis statim vobis significaret, sub sigillo communi, non obstante absentia mea. Et spero quod magis placebit Conventui facere, motu proprio, ea quæ sunt in hac parte facienda, quam si, per me vel alterum, ad hoc inducti fuissent et allecti. Valeat et prospere vigeat vita vestra in Christo et Virgine gloriosa. Datum apud Clyve, xxx^mo die Julii.

the Sub-prior to consult the Chapter privately about the reception of the penitent fugitive monk.

224.—De eodem quo supra, et aliis.

2 Aug. (1327).

L. 153 *a*.

Suo patri plenitudinem totius salutis. De statu Thomæ de Sandwico, hac die Mercurii proxime præterita apud Clyve juxta Roffam, et in crastino, apud Mepham, cum Magistro R. de Weston, clerico vestro, colloquium habui et tractatum, per quem vobis scripsi ea quæ in hac parte feci, et quoad tunc facere potui, satis plane. Ad supervidendum quædam maneria Conventus juxta Otteford et Croindon, et examinandum quosdam notabiles defectus in eisdem compertos, ad illa loca hiis diebus utilis necessitas me transvexit, nec mirabimini si causam debite consideretis; nec causam doloris habere debetis, nec potestis. ex eo

Prior to Archbishop. The writer explains to the Archbishop the causes of the *progress* which he is making among the manors of the Convent, and

disclaims any intention of visiting those in Oxfordshire. He thinks that the appeal made to the Curia by the fugitive monk need cause no alarm.

quod intellexistis quod sum in eundo ad manerium de Newenton juxta Walingford, quia partes illas istis diebus adire nunquam meus concepit nec peperit cogitatus. Quisnam talibus mentem vestram depinxit novit pictor, non ipsius pictura. Mandata Apostolica vos et Ecclesiam vestram Cantuariensem et Conventum contingentia in proximo affutura, quandoque venerint recipiam, ut convenit, reverenter. De vocatione vestra ad partes Notingh(amiæ) vel Lincolniæ, ordinet et disponet Rex ille in cujus manu sunt omnia corda regum. Valeat vestra paternitas in prosperitate felici. Scriptum apud Merstham secundo die mensis Augusti. Nova Curiæ Romanæ quæ, vestri gratia, michi misistis bene nova dici possunt, quia prius similia non audivi, nec imposterum credo audire. De appellationibus Thomæ de Sandwico, quanquam vos et me in Curia Romana prosequi intendit, ut dicit, non magis curetis quam ego, nisi causa major existat. Nec credo quod ad statum suum in Ecclesia Cantuariensi aliqualiter restituetur, nisi hujusmodi causas appellationis prius revocaverit, et publice renunciaverit eisdem, vel eas prosecutus fuerit finaliter cum effectu.

19 Aug. 1327.

L. 153 *a*.

225.—De reversione Thomæ de Sandwico.

Prior and Chapter to Archbishop. The writers are prepared to receive the fugitive monk in the form prescribed by the Benedictine rule, but not otherwise.

Venerabili in Christo patri, etc., Prior et Capitulum etc., salutem, etc. Licet Frater Thomas de Sandwico, contra bonam obedientiam, de claustri nostri refugio nuper recessit, et adhuc extra gremium Ecclesiæ residеat, nulla petita licentia nec optenta; vosque per vestras litteras, pro receptione et reassumptione ejusdem Thomæ, nos excitaveritis vicibis repetitis, scire vos volumus, sancte pater, quod per eundem Thomam occasionaliter stetit et stat quare receptus non fuit hactenus, nec admissus; quia præsentiam suam corporalem nullatenus exhibuit coram nobis, nec prout religiosus, pro offensis ordinis regularia[1] [instituta] satisfacere

[1] *regulariter*, MS.

per procuratorem [curavit]. Tamen, nos, fraterno sibi compatientes affectu, pro salute animæ suæ, qua nichil est optabilius in hac vita, præfatum Thomam, si ad monasterium reverti voluerit, juxta Beati Benedicti regularia ordinis instituta, et, secundum ipsius Thomæ humilitatis modum et merita, recipiemus. Et per aliam viam ipsum recipere non intendimus, prout nec possumus nec debemus, juxta regulares observantias et sanctorum patrum canonicas sanctiones. Decet igitur et expedit, pro salute animæ dicti Thomæ, quod ipsum Thomam, juxta officii vestri debitum, per vestras litteras canonice moneatis et efficaciter inducatis, quod ad Ecclesiam, de qua sine causa legitima nuper recessit, redeat indilate. Et nos parati erimus ipsum recipere juxta formam præscriptam. Valeat et vigeat vestra paternitas sancta in Christo. Datum in Capitulo nostro xix^no^ die Augusti, anno Dni. M^o^CCC^mo^XXVIJ.

226.—Domino Thomæ de Guosbek [vicario de Ayssch Bockyng]. 1327. L. B. 35.

The Vicar of Ash Bocking, a benefice in the patronage of the Convent, having assumed the religious habit, is asked by the Prior to take the necessary steps for verifying the vacancy of the benefice.

Salutem. Intelleximus ex relatu quod vos, adventu Sancti Spiritus salubriter visitati, hujus seculi turbinem deserentes, sanctæ religionis habitum non solum interiorem sed exteriorem assumpsistis. Hac ratione moti, ex affectu vos rogamus quatinus quamcitius poteritis nos certificare velitis, si vicariam de Ayssch, nuper ut dicitur vestram, in manus dyocesani vestri resignastis vel resignare velitis. Et si sic, super hujusmodi resignationem, ac super ipsius dicti dyocesani acceptationem, approbationem, et admissionem, per litteras autenticas et litteras vestras, vel sub manu publica nos sine mora placeat certificare; scientes quod nos et confratres nostri aliqualiter possumus admirari, quod tale certificatorium nobis mittere hactenus non curastis. Verumptamen in hac parte defectum, si quis

fuerit, vestræ discretionis prudentia, statim, visis hiis litteris nostris, ut credimus supplebit. Valete in Christo.

5 Aug. 1327.

L. 153 *b*.

227. — Littera missa Domino Archiepiscopo per Suppriorem et Capitulum, Priore absente, de procuratorio mittendo ad Curiam Romanam pro negotio visitationis ordinariæ Ecclesiæ et diœcesis Norwicensium.

The Chapter, in the absence of the Prior, decline to send a power of attorney to the Archbishop's proctors at the Curia, as requested by him.

Venerabili in Christo patri Domino Waltero Dei gratia Cantuariensi Archiepiscopo, etc. devoti filii W. Supprior (absente Priore) et Capitulum Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, salutem cum omni obedientia, reverentia, et honore. De procuratorio sub sigillo nostro communi procuratoribus vestris in Curia Romana mittendo, de quo Domino Priori nostro voluntatem vestram literatorie nuper mandastis, prout per litteras certificatorias ipsius nobis transmissas plenius nobis constat, nunc sicut alias tractavimus et deliberavimus satis plene. Nec videtur nobis nec consilio nostro aliqualiter expedire, quod hujusmodi procuratorium sub sigillo nostro communi ad dictam Curiam transmittatur, pro negotiis quorum dubii ac periculosi sunt exitus et eventus, prout per alias nostras litteras latius et seriosius vobis significavimus modico tempore decurso. Habeatis igitur, si placet, in hac parte nos æquanimiter excusatos. Valeat vestra paternitas sancta in Christo, per ipsius Matris et beati Martyris Thomæ merita gloriosa. Data in Capitulo nostro, quinto die Augusti, anno Dni. M°CCC°XXVIJ°.

3 Sept. 1327.

L. 153 *b*.

228.—De appropriatione ecclesiæ de Westerham.

The Prior sends to

Venerabili in Christo patri, Domino H[aymoni] Dei gratia Roffensi Episcopo, suus H[enricus] permissione ejusdem Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis

salutem illam quam peperit puerpera singularis, cum reverentia et honore. Excitat utilitas, inducit honestas, et suadet ratio fiduciales amicos in agendis precibus devotis pulsare. Pro quibusdam igitur negotiis Ecclesiæ nostræ quæ multum insident cordi nostro, litteram Capituli nostri et nostram conjunctim supplicatoriam paternitati vestræ solita fiducia destinamur, tota qua possumus reverentia supplicantes, quatinus hujusmodi negotium ad laudabilem et perpetuam vestri memoriam velitis feliciter expedire, vestræ et successorum vestrorum et Ecclesiæ vestræ Roffensis indempnitati, juxta vestræ discretionis arbitrium, prospiciendo. Cui quidem arbitrio vestro in omnibus parebimus reverenter. Valeat et vigeat vestra paternitas prout valere et vigere vellemus. Datum Cantuariæ tertio die Septembris, anno Dni. M°CCC^mo°XXVIJ^mo.

the Bishop of Rochester a petition from the Chapter; which petition the title explains is a request that he will authorize the appropriation of the Church of Westerham in his diocese to the Convent of Canterbury.

229.—Magistro Bricio de eadem appropriatione (ecclesiæ de Westerham). (3 Sept. 1327.)

L. 154 *a*.

Salutem. Vobis referimus grates magnas pro celeri et efficaci diligentia apposita pro negotio appropriationis ecclesiæ de Westerham. Et quia in litteris vestris nobis directis fit mentio de testibus producendis coram Commissario Domini Roffensis Episcopi, quem cum voluerimus impetrabimus super veritate causarum quas suggerimus dicto patri; rogamus vos, quod de nomine dicti Commissarii nos certificetis, et de certo die ad quem, et ubi, testes producere poterimus coram ipso. Scribatis etiam nobis, si placet, de conditione hujusmodi testium, si possimus per fratres nostros vel per familiares et domesticos nostros, qui veritatem rerum plene noverunt, probare suggestiones nostras, vel oporteat mittere ibidem alios testes extraneos nobis minus notos? Et quot testes sufficient, ad præmissa probanda? Valeat, etc.

The Prior consults Master Brice (Counsel of the Convent) as to the procedure to be observed in the appropriation of Westerham rectory to the Convent.

3 Sept. (1327).

L. 153 *b*.

The Prior sends to the Archbishop the power of attorney refused to him by the Chapter in their previous letter. He hints at disorders committed by the Hainaulters on their passage through Dover.

230.—De reversione Thomæ de Sandwico, et procuratorio misso ad Curiam Romanam pro causa Northwicensi, et aliis.

Suo patri salutem. Super hiis quæ michi soli ultimo scripsistis feci quod potui. novit Deus, prout inferius patet expresse. Si Frater Thomas de Sandwico venisset apud Cantuariam tempore quo Magister R. de Weston, clericus vester, ista vice moram fecit ibidem, receptus fuisset, et admissus ad communionem fratrum, juxta vestræ desiderium voluntatis. Adhuc, pater, procuratorium de quo michi scripsistis sigillatum est sigillo communi, nichil addito vel subtracto quod syllabam mutet vel minuat, et liberatum est prædicto Magistro R. Formam vero cautionis de indempnitate Conventus quam vobis mitto præsentibus involutam, pro bono pacis et quietis, mittere velitis Conventui sigillo vestro signatam; qua recepta, aliam cautionem michi missam vobis remittam. Nec una differt ab alia in effectu. Qualiter autem Hanonienses in suo transitu apud Dovoriam nuper se habebant, et alia quædam negotia dicto Magistro R. commisi, vobis plenius exponenda organo vocis vivæ. Valeat et prospere vigeat vita vestra. Scriptum Cantuariæ iij^io^ die Septembris.

26 Sept. (1327).

L. 154 *b*.

The Prior submits the articles (*see* p. 243) drawn up for the information of the Bishop of Rochester, to counsel

231.—De eodem quo supra.

Salutem quam sibi. Pro rescripto vestro ad consultationem nostram pridie vobis factam vobis referimus grates multas. Verum quia in dicto rescripto vestro continetur, quod articuli nostri, quos nuper vobis destinavimus, super appropriatione ecclesiæ de Westerham, inspiciendos, "sunt satis bene concepti, "dumtamen testes declarent in specie id quod in "dictis articulis in genere continetur," rogamus vos quod certificetis nos, in quali specie et specialitate

oportet nos quod testes nostri declarent ea, quæ in dictis articulis in genere continentur; videlicet, si annum, diem, horam, locum, et numerum acrarum possessionum nostrarum sterilium oporteat declarare, vel aliam qualemcumque declarationem facere specialem. Et hujusmodi articulos nostros, quos vobis remittimus corrigendos, velitis sumptibus nostris redigere in formam debitam et competentem, venerabili patri Domino Roffensi Episcopo suisve Commissariis tradendos, ad effectum appropriationis ecclesiæ de Westerham supradictæ. Valete. Scriptum apud Godmersham, xxvj^to^ die Septembris. Nunquam enim fuit visum nec auditum quod, in casu appropriationis ecclesiæ, ita stricte et rigide contra testes procederetur.

for revision; hinting that the Bishop is a little overstrict.

232.—De statu Thomæ de Sandwico.

7 Oct. (1327).

Salutem. Quia nuper intellexi, quod quidam bilingwes venerabili patri Domino nostro Cantuariensi pertinaciter suggesserunt, quod secreta consilia sua michi notificata aliis malitiose revelavi; et ideo dictus pater posset me, propter hujusmodi contemptum, merito graviter punire; scire vos volo, et alios quoscunque quorum interest, quod paratus sum, coram judice competenti, audire probationes ipsorum qui talia contra me probare voluerint; salvis michi legitimis exceptionibus meis contra ipsos, et eorum testes, et alios quoscunque hujusmodi negotium criminosum promoventes, procurantes, et prosequentes. Et expedit quod præmuniatis, seu præmuniri faciatis, illos qui hujusmodi falsum crimen michi malitiose imposuerunt, quod a sententia majoris excommunicationis, qua ea occasione ligantur, faciant se absolvi. De statu Fratris Thomæ de Sandwico, si reverti voluerit ad monasterium, ordinabitur mitius quo rationabiliter fieri poterit; salvis Beati Benedicti regularibus institutis.

L. 154 *b*.

The Prior complains to a friend, probably a chaplain in the Archbishop's household, that slanderous tongues have accused him of betraying the Archbishop's counsel. He also says that the fugitive monk may return on easy terms.

Valete in Christo et Virgine gloriosa. Datum Cantuariæ vij^mo die Octobris.

232A.—Adjectio ejusdem litteræ in cedula separata.

The Prior's explanations continued.

Ad hæc sciatis quod, de hiis quæ in ultima visitatione Domini nostri Cantuariensis rite correcta fuerunt, nichil (h)actenus intromisi; set de quibusdam dubiis et incertis, ad importunam fratrum in pleno capitulo instantiam, querelosam, et clamosam, feci seorsum, extra capitulum, quibusdam fratribus mentionem; et quamcito michi pro certo constabat, per litteras dicti patris michi transmissas, de debita correctione facta super hiis quæ in visitatione sua, dictos fratres contingentibus, comperta fuerunt, nichil super hiis postea intromisi; et ideo non potuit nec potest dictus pater michi aliquam inhibitionem rationabiliter facere super præmissis, sine juris offensa.

7 Oct. 1327.

L. 155 *a*.

233.—Item. De statu Thomæ de Sandwico.

The Prior, addressing some person of influence, complains that some people have compared the case of the fugitive monk with that of another monk who, after permission obtained, left the Convent for awhile to visit the Archbishop.

Salutem quam sibi. Scribitur quod, "ea quæ in facto consistunt peritissimos fallunt frequenter." Licet enim Frater H. Mot nuper monachus Ecclesiæ nostræ Cantuariensis, petita licentia in pleno Capitulo pro salute animæ suæ Dominum Archiepiscopum consulendi, monasterium exiit et statim rediit sine divagatione majore; nullus tamen sanæ mentis factum et casum dicti H. in hac parte facto et casui Fratris Thomæ de Sandwico hiis diebus, consideratis considerandis, poterit applicare, nec aliqualiter coæquare; quia dictus H. fugitivus non extitit, sed, petita licentia, exiit et rediit sine mora. Præmissa vobis scribimus ad informationem vestram pleniorem, quia, prout intelleximus, alia hiis contraria sunt vobis suggesta; nec observantiæ regulares sunt juri communi subjectæ.

Scientes quod illi qui reversionem dicti Thomæ ad Ecclesiam nostram contra regularia ordinis instituta retardant, animæ suæ salutem non respiciunt, set penitus eidem resistunt. Et si Dominus noster Cantuariensis aliquid super præmissis contra voluntatem Conventus attemptet, prout aliqui asserunt se velle attemptare, proculdubio intolerabile scandalum pululabit, quod mallemus mori citius quam videre. Valete sicut valere vellemus. Scriptum Cantuariæ septimo die Octobris.

the rule of St. Benedict is not subject to the power of *common law*; and that if the Archbishop meddle improperly with the affairs of the Convent great scandal will arise.

234.—De consecratione Electi Wygorniensis.[1]

9 Oct. 1327.

L. 155 *a*.

Sacræ religionis professoribus, fratribus Suppriori et Capitulo Ecclesiæ cathedralis Wygorniensis, H(enricus) permissione divina, etc., et ejusdem loci Capitulum, salutem, et fraternam in Domino caritatem. Data litterarum vestrarum, quas viij^vo die mensis Octobris nuper recepimus, occasionem nobis tribuit admirandi, præsertim ex eo quod nobis, per easdem litteras, supplicastis quod nostrum expressum præberemus assensum super commissione Domini Cantuariensis Archiepiscopi, facta per eum alteri Episcopo, cui idem Dominus duxerat committendum super confirmatione Electi vestri et consecratione ejusdem, per dictum Commissarium, facienda in loco competenti, alibi quam in nostra ecclesia cathedrali. Verum, quia de tali commissione nobis, quorum specialiter interest, hactenus nichil constabat, nec adhuc constat in præsenti, et in dubiis et incertis frequenter fallitur humanum arbitrium, hujusmodi commissioni dicti patris non decet nec expedit nostrum expressum præbere consensum, nisi prius de eadem commissione nobis facta fuerit plena fides. Deliberetis igitur plenius super præmissis, quid in hac parte ulterius sit agendum. Valeat et prospere

The Prior of Canterbury expresses his surprise and disapprobation upon being asked by the Prior of Worcester in an informal manner to grant to Adam Orleton, the Elect of that See, a licence of *alibi consecrari*.

[1] Adam Orleton.

vigeat vestra devotio sancta in Christo per suæ matris merita gloriosa. Data in Capitulo nostro ix^no^ die mensis prædicti, anno Dni. M°CCC^mo^xxvij^mo^.

13 Oct. (1327).

L. 155 b.

235.—De reversione et reconciliatione Fratris Thomæ de Sandwico.

The Prior reports to the Archbishop that the fugitive monk has returned, and, by the Archbishop's intervention, has been restored to his place in the Convent on easy terms. A postscript tells how the men of Sandwich and those of Canterbury have quarrelled, and how in consequence it has become difficult to victual the Convent.

Suo patri. Sancta Mater Ecclesia gremium suum claudit superbis, et contritis et humiliatis aperit sinum suum, cum pastor sollicitus ovem deviantem, luporum morsubus exportans, reducit ad gregem. Ecce pater Frater Thomas de Sandwico, qui nuper deseruit solita pabula et pastorem *die tali* [1] rediit ad ovile. Et quia dictus Thomas contritus fatebatur culpam suam, et humiliatus petebat gratiam et misericordiam, offerens se paratum ad satisfactionem faciendam, Sancta Mater Ecclesia sibi aperuit gremium suum, et ad communionem fratrum est admissus, juxta regularia ordinis instituta. Et, ut plenius sciatis qualem gratiam dictus Thomas, ad instantiam vestram, est adeptus, mitto vobis inspiciendam copiam constitutionis celebris memoriæ Theobaldi, quondam Archiepiscopi, et Capituli Cantuariensis de monachis fugitivis.[2] Et si prædictus Thomas gratus fuerit, tenetur rependere vobis grates præ ceteris mortalibus ampliores. Valeat et prospere vigeat vita vestra in hac valle miserabili mundiali. Scriptum Cantuar. xiij^mo^ die Octobris.

Adhuc pater, propter contentiones et discordias inter homines de communitate Sandwyci et sibi adhærentes et homines de communitate civitatis Cantuariæ nuper subortas, dicti homines de Sandwyco non permittunt nos victuali nec aliqua alia bona quærere apud Sandwycum, nec de eadem villa apud Cantuariam cariare, nec etiam bona nostra aliunde de maneriis nostris, per potestatem suam et membrorum suorum, permittunt

[1] . . . . *hac die Lunæ proximo præterita*, erased in MS.

[2] See Appendix 5.

transferri, pro sustentatione nostri Conventus. Quocirca paternitati vestræ supplico quatenus Majori, Ballivis, et Communitati de Sandwico litteras vestras supplicatorias pro remedio dirigere velitis; alioquin oportebit Conventum distrahere et transmittere, pro defectu alimentorum, ad loca diversa.

236.—Articuli quos Prior et Capitulum Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis intendunt probare coram venerabili patre Domino Hamone Dei gratia Roffensi Episcopo ipsiusve Commissario, ad effectum appropriacionis ecclesiæ de Westerham, dictæ Roffensis diœcesis, eisdem Priori et Capitulo faciendæ. (Oct. 1327.) Cart. Ant. C. 236.

Primo intendunt probare quod terræ et possessiones immobiles ipsorum magis solito steriles effectæ, fructus sibi non afferunt consuetos, propter pestilenciam animalium suorum mortuorum in maneriis suis subscriptis, videlicet: Catalogue of the losses in cattle and land suffered by the Canterbury Convent which the Prior and Chapter plead in order to induce the the Bishop of Rochester to appropriate to them the Rectory of Westerham.

Apud Monketon—x. boves, xliiij. vaccæ cum exitu, mcccxxxvij. oves.

Apud Estreia et Lyden—xiij. boves, xxx. vaccæ cum exitu, cccclliij. oves.

Apud Adesham—v. boves, iiij^{xx}. xiiij. oves.

Apud Ikham—xxiiij. boves et tauri, xxxvj. vaccæ cum exitu, ccclxviij. oves.

Apud Chertham—xxiiij. vaccæ cum exitu, cl. oves.

Apud Godmersham—xj. vaccæ cum exitu, cxxx. oves.

Apud Broke—

Apud Merseham et Rokyngg—xv. boves, liij. vaccæ cum exitu.

Apud Aghene—ix. vaccæ cum exitu, lxvij. oves.

Apud Apuldre et Ebbene—xxiiij. vaccæ cum exitu, cc. oves.

Apud Magnam Chert et Parvam Chert—xxv. boves, xlvij. vaccæ cum exitu, liiij. oves.

Apud Westwelles—iij. boves, vij. vaccæ cum exitu, $\overset{xx}{}$iiij. oves.

Apud Estfarlegh—iiij. vaccæ cum exitu, lx. oves.

Apud Pekham—ix. vaccæ cum exitu.

Apud Holingbourne—iiij. boves, v. vaccæ cum exitu, lxx. oves.

Apud Hamme et Berkesore—ij. boves, ccc. $\overset{xx}{}$iiij. oves.

Apud Clyve—xiiij. boves, xij. vaccæ cum exitu, lx. oves.

Apud Mepham—ix. boves, vij. vaccæ cum exitu, c. oves.

Apud Orpinton—xiiij. boves et tauri, x. vaccæ cum exitu, c. oves.

Apud Waleworth et Horslegh—xij. boves, l. oves.

Apud Merstham et Cheyham—xvj. boves et tauri, v. vaccæ, ccl. oves.

Apud Rysebergh et Halton—xxvij. boves et tauri, xiiij. vaccæ, $\overset{xx}{}$iiij. oves.

Apud Newenton et Brutewell—xix. boves et tauri, xij. vaccæ cum exitu, $\overset{xx}{}$iiij. oves.

Apud Middelton in Essexia—vij. boves, xj. vaccæ cum exitu, lx. oves.

Apud Lallyngg, Bokkyng, et Borle et apud Illegh et Hadlegh—xxxiij. boves, cxvij. vaccæ cum exitu, cclx. oves.

Summa Boum in morina—cclvij. Precium in denariis—c. $\overset{xx}{}$iiij. xj. *li.* v. *s.* Precium Bovis—xv. *s.*

Summa Vaccarum mortuarum cum exitu—Dxj. vaccæ. Precium in denariis—cclv. *li.* x. *s.* Precium vaccæ cum exitu—x. *s.*

Summa Ovium mortuarum—$m^l m^l m^l m^l$ d. $\overset{xx}{}$iiij. v. oves. Precium in denariis—ccc. xliij. *li.* xvij. *s.* vj. *d.* Precium ovis—xviij. *d.*

Summa tocius precii omnium animalium mortuorum —Dcc. $\overset{xx}{\text{iiij.}}$ xij. *li.* xij. *s.* vj. *d.*

Item: intendunt probare quod m^{l}ccxij. acræ terræ suæ, de quibus magnos fructus et proventus percipere consueverunt jacent in salsugine maris inundatæ. Et nullus profectus ipsis pervenit ex eisdem; videlicet:

In marisco de Romene apud Apuldre et Ebbene—ccccxxxvij. acræ. Precium acræ si fuissent intratæ—iiij. *s.*

Item: apud Feyrefeld et Morlond—ccxxv. acræ. Precium acræ si fuissent intratæ—iiij. *s.*

Item: apud Aghene—ccl. acræ. Precium acræ si fuissent intratæ—iij. *s.* iiij. *d.*

Item:—in Comitatu Essexiæ apud Middelton super Tamisiam—ccxl. acræ. Precium acræ si fuissent intratæ—viij. *d.*

Item: ibidem xl. acræ. Precium acræ si fuissent intratæ—xij. *d.*

Item: intendunt probare quod propter frequentes et quasi cotidianos et continuos ad Ecclesiam Cantuariensem concursus et recursus ingrediencium et egrediencium regnum Angliæ, et aliorum inopinate superveniencium pluries quam solebant, quos fugere nequeunt nec ipsos fugare, singulis annis minuitur et distrahitur magna pars annonæ ipsorum; videlicet: cl. quarteria frumenti, ccc. quarteria præbendæ, et c. *li.* sterlingorum annuatim magis solito in coquina. Quæ quidem dampna et expensæ insolitæ æstimantur annuatim ad cc. *li.* sterlingorum.

Et quia, propter hujusmodi onerosos et dispendiosos eventus, dicti Prior et Capitulum nequeunt in Ecclesia Cantuariensi hospitalitates et alia consueta caritatis opera supportare, nec, juxta ipsius Ecclesiæ honorificenciam, suis necessitatibus providere; ad ubera melliflua venerabilis patris Domini Hamonis Dei gratia Roffensis Episcopi fiducialiter recurrentes, et de ipsarum fonte gratiarum scatencia munera supplere postulantes, eidem reverendo patri pronis humeris supplicarunt, ut

ecclesiam de Westerham cum capella de Edulwesbrugg eidem ecclesiæ annexa, quarum jus optinent patronatus, cum juribus et pertinenciis suis, præfatis Priori et Capitulo in proprios et perpetuos usus, de gratia speciali, concedere dignaretur; de ipsius facultatibus perpetuo vicario ejusdem ecclesiæ, præfato Domino Episcopo per dictos Priorem et Capitulum præsentando, congrua porcione servata pro solitis ipsarum ecclesiæ et capellæ oneribus supportandis.

(Oct. 1327.)

237.—Forma reversionis Thomæ de Sandwico si reverti voluerit ad Ecclesiam Cantuariensem.

L. 154 *a*.

The form of submission and the words of readmission proposed for employment in the Chapter in case that the fugitive monk should return to his monastery.

Veniet in Capitulum, et humiliatus et in terram prostratus, coram Priore et Capitulo dicet verba subscripta: "Domine, offendi Deum, et ordinem, et vos, "et Conventum; et ideo peto gratiam et misericor- "diam, et offero me paratum ad satisfactionem "faciendam." Et respondebitur: "Si, frater, Sancta "Mater Ecclesia humiliato et contrito gremium suum "aperit; et quia culpam tuam humiliter fateris; ac "gratiam et misericordiam petis contritus; et te "offers ad satisfaciendum paratum, nos te admitti- "mus ad gremium Ecclesiæ, et ad communionem fra- "trum, et assignamus tibi *talem* locum in choro, "claustro, capitulo, et refectorio; ut ex hoc tua "humilitas, juxta Beati Benedicti regulam, comple- "bitur."

16 Oct. 1327.

238.—De testibus examinandis super appropriatione ecclesiæ de Westerham.

L. 154 *b*.

The Bishop of Rochester having appointed the Prior of Rochester and the Rector of Southfleet

Suo suus, seipsum totaliter, et salutem quam sibi. Quia venerabilis pater Dominus H. Dei gratia Roffensis Episcopus commisit specialiter vices suas vobis, et Magistro Thomæ de Alkham rectori ecclesiæ de Southflete, ad recipiendum et examinandum testes, quos et quot producere voluerimus coram vobis, super

articulis pro parte nostra vobis tradendis, ad effectum appropriationis ecclesiæ de Westerham nobis faciendæ, cujus formam commissionis vobis transmittimus inspeciendam; dilectionem vestram requirimus et rogamus, quatenus de certis die et loco, quando et ubi poteritis circa hujusmodi negotia nostra vacare, nos certiorare velitis per præsentium postitorem, et hujusmodi diem et locum dicto Magistro Thomæ significare. Scripsimus enim eidem rogantes quod ad diem et locum, quos sibi duxeritis notificare, velit hujusmodi negotiis una vobiscum intendere et vacare. Et videtur nobis quod in ecclesia vestra Roffensi, quæ est locus sollempnis, præmissa poterunt melius expediri. Valete sicut valere vellemus in Christo. Data Cantuariæ xvj^to^ die Octobris, anno Dni. M°CCCVIJ°.

his Commissaries for hearing evidence in the matter of the appropriation of Westerham, the Prior of Christ Church asks the Prior of Rochester to appoint a day and place for the production of the witnesses.

239.—De eodem quo supra.

16 Oct. 1327.

Salutem quam sibi. Quia venerabilis pater H. Dei gratia Roffensis Episcopus commisit vices suas Domino Priori Roffensi et vobis conjunctim, ad recipiendum articulos nostros vobis tradendos, et ad examinandum testes quos producere voluerimus super hiis articulis coram vobis, ad effectum appropriationis ecclesiæ de Westerham nobis faciendæ; dilectionem vestram requirimus et rogamus, quatinus ad certos diem et locum, quos præfatus Dominus Prior vobis duxerit significare, velitis circa hujusmodi negotia una cum ipso intendere et vacare. Valete sicut valere vellemus in Xpo. Voluntatem vestram in hiis et aliis velitis nobis scribere per præsentium portitorem. Scriptum Cantuariæ xvj^to^ die Octobris, anno Dni. M°CCC^mo^XXVIJ.

L. 154 *b*.

The Prior of Christ Church writes to Tho. de Alkham, the second Commissary of the Bishop of Rochester, to the same effect as in the foregoing letter.

240.—Littera Domino Cancellario Regis pro protectione regia concedanda.

(Oct. 1327.)

Venerabili in Christo patri, etc. Inducit honestas et excitat utilitas dominos et amicos fiduciales devotis

L. 156 *a*.

The Prior, reporting

to Hotham, Bishop of Ely (the Chancellor), the discord which exists between the men of Sandwich and those of Canterbury, with its effects upon the Convent, asks for royal letters of protection, in the form of a draft enclosed in his letter.

pulsare precibus in agendis. Ecce pater, propter dissentiones et discordias, inter homines de Sandwico et sibi adhærentes et homines de Cantuaria, nuper exortas, dampna gravia sustinemus, et pericula multipliciter nobis imminent hinc et inde. Et, nisi de regali solio nobis remedium perveniat oportunum, oportebit nos Conventum nostrum dispergere et ad loca diversa, per defectum victualium, destinare. Quocirca, paternitatem vestram deprecamur, suppliciter exorantes, quatinus litteras protectionis domini nostri Domini Regis, Ecclesiæ nostræ Christi prædictæ fundatoris et specialis patroni, nobis concedere velitis, juxta formam substantialem contentam in cedula præsentibus involuta. Valeat vestra paternitas sancta in Christo per suæ matris merita gloriosa. Dat., etc.

241.—Protectio regia specialis.

(Oct. 1337.)

L. 155 *b*.

Edwardus, etc. omnibus ballivis suis, etc. Cum progenitores nostri quondam reges Angliæ, in fundo et fundamento palatii sui regalis, ecclesiam Cantuarien-

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28 Oct. 1327.

L. 156 *a*.

242.—Littera de victualibus emendis apud Sandwicum, non obstante contentione inter ipsos et homines de Cantuaria.

The Prior, disclaiming any partizanship with the men of Canterbury, asks the Mayor and Corporation of Sandwich to allow the Convent to

A ses treschers amis et bien amez en Dieu le Maire et le Baillif de Sandwyz, Henri Prieur et le Covent del Esglise de Canterbirs, saluz, et la joye perdurable. Pur ceo qe ly ad grant defaute de luminaire entour le corps et le fertre Saint Thomas, et les altres corps saintz qe reposent en nostre dite Esglise, et nous meismes avoms et sentoms grantz defautes et damages en diverses maneres, par encheson del descord qi est entre vous et les gentz de Canterbirs, et nous ne suymes pas encheson de cel descord,

The draft letters of protection enclosed in the foregoing letter.

sem fundaverint in nomine Jesu Christi, ipsam ecclesiam in liberam, puram, et perpetuam elemosinam de regia munificentia dotaverint; nos, ob devotionem quam gerimus ad dictam Ecclesiam et gloriosum martyrem Thomam, cujus corpus in eadem ecclesia requiescit, suscipimus in protectionem et defensionem nostram specialem dilectos nobis in Christo Priorem et Conventum Ecclesiæ Christi prædictæ, homines, terras, res, redditus, et omnes possessiones suas, tam infra libertates quam extra. Et ideo vobis mandamus quod ipsum Priorem et Conventum, homines, terras, res, redditus, et omnes possessiones suas manuteneatis, protegatis, et defendatis; non inferentes eis, vel inferri permittentes, injuriam, molestiam, dampnum, aut gravamen. Et siquid eis injuriatum vel dampnificatum fuerit, id eis sine dilatione faciatis emendari. Nolumus enim quod de bladis vel aliis victualibus suis, equis, carectis, aut aliis bonis seu catallis ipsorum Prioris et Conventus, contra voluntatem suam, sub quocunque colore, per ballivos seu ministros nostros aut aliorum quorumcunque, quicquid capiatur vel arrestetur. In cujus rei testimonium, etc.

242.

To his very dear friends and well-beloved in God, the Mayor and the Bailiff of Sandwich, Henry the Prior, and the Convent of the Church of Canterbury greeting, and enduring joy. Whereas there is a great deficiency of illumination around the body and the shrine of Saint Thomas, and of the other sacred bodies which repose in our aforesaid Church, and we too ourselves have and feel great deficiencies and losses in various forms by reason of the disagreement which exists between you and the men of Canterbury, and now, as we are not the

purchase wax and victuals in their town.

mes moult desiroms qe bone pees et bon amour fuist entre vous et eaux; nous vous prioms cherement, come noz chers amis, qe vous plese bonement suffrir qe nous puissoms purver et achater en la ville et le port de Sandwyz ceo qe apent al honur de Dieu et de Sainte Esglise, et des ditz corps saintz, et ausi vitailles et autres choses pur sustenance de nous et de noz amis, sicome nous solioms tout temps peisiblement faire avant ces houres. Et sur cestes choses voillez bonement enformer les altres bones gentz de vostre comminalte. A Dieu qi vous gard et quant qe a vous apent. Donez en nostre Chapitle, le xxviij. jour de Octobre, lan de grace MCCCXXVIJ.

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30 Oct. (1327.)

L. 156 *a*.

243.—Responsio Majoris et Baronum de Sandwico ad Litteram supradictam.

The Mayor and Corporation of Sandwich consent to supply the Convent with wax and food, provided that the citizens of Canterbury are not allowed to benefit by the permission.

A honurable Pere espiritel Sire Henri par la suffraunce et Dieu Prieur del Esglise de la Trinite de Canterbirs, et a tout le Covent de meisme le leu, li Maire, et Barons, et tote la communalte de Sandwyz, honours et reverences. Trescher Piere, endroit de vostre lettre a nous maunde, qe il yad grant defaute de luminaire entour le corps et le fertre Seint Thomas et les altres corps seintz qi reposent en vostre Esglise, et qe vous y avez grantz defautes et damages en diverses maneres, par reson del descord entre nous et ceaux de Canterbirs, et qe nous voussissoms bonement suffrir qe vous puissez purver et achater en nostre ville ceo qe apent al honur de Dieu, et de Seinte Esglise, et des ditz corps seintz; et ausi vitailles et autres choses pur sustenaunce de vous et de voz amis, sicome vous soliez faire avant ces houres; vous fesoms, trescher Piere, assavoir qe, endroit de luminaire, al honur de Seint Thomas et reverence de vostre Piere,[1] voloms suffrir bonement qe, quant qe vous bosoigne de luminaire et altres choses qe vous

[1] *de vous, Piere?*

cause of this disagreement, but rather desire that there might be peace and brotherly love between you and them; we pray you heartily as our dear friends, that you will be pleased to allow us to provide and buy in the town and port of Sandwich, those things which pertain to the honour of God and of Holy Church, and of the said sacred bodies, and also victuals and other matters for the sustenance of us and of our friends, as we have been used peaceably to do in all times past. And as to these things, be pleased kindly to instruct the other good men of your community. God be with you and keep you and all belonging to you. Given in our Chapter House, the 28th day of October, in the year of grace 1327.

243.

To the honourable ghostly father Sir Henry by God's permission Prior of the Church of Canterbury, and to all the Convent of the same place, the Mayor and Barons and all the commonalty of Sandwich, honours and reverences. Very dear father, as to your letter sent to us, (saying) that there is great deficiency of illumination around the body and the shrine of St. Thomas, and the other sacred bodies which repose in your Church, and that you have there great deficiencies and damages by reason of the discord between us and those of Canterbury, and that we should be pleased to allow that you might be able to provide and purchase in our town those things which pertain to the honour of God, and of Holy Church, and of the sacred bodies aforesaid, and also victuals and other things for the sustenance of yourselves and your friends as you have been used to do in times past; we let you know, most dear father, that as to materials for illumination, for the honour of Saint Thomas, and reverence of yourself, father, we are willing to allow that you shall be freely supplied with whatever

bosoignent, soiez bonement servy, issint qe vos amis de Canterbirs, de la ville meismes, ne soyent en nulle manere par voz confortez; et sur ceo qe nous eyoms, cher Piere, garant de vous, par voz lettres, qe les choses qe vous bosoignent irrount devers vous, et ne mye aillours. Vostre bone response, si pleyser vous soit, nous voillez mander, et a Deux soyez vous touz comandez. Escript a Sandwyz, Vendirdi a soir devant Touz Seintz.

2 Nov. 1327.

L. 156 *b*.

244.—Littera Domini Prioris Majori et Baronibus de Sandwico super eadem.

Thanks for the foregoing letter.

A ses treschers et bien amez en Dieu le Maire et Barons de Sandwyz, Henri par la suffraunce de Dieu Priour del Esglise de Canterbire, saluz, et saunte en terre et en mere, et la joye de cel. Treschers amis, nous vous mercioms moult de vostre graciouse lettre, qe vous envoyastes a nous nadgers, vostre merci, et de vostre bone volonte, qe vous avez et monstrez a nostre Esglise et a nous. Et voillez saver, chers amis, certeignement qe molt desplerroit a nous si nul de noz amis feist a vous autre chose qe a nous meismes; et qe nous ne tendrioms pas celi pur nostre ami qi eust volonte de faire a vous damage ou deshonur en nul point. A Dieu qi vous gard et quant qe a vous apent. Donez a Canterbirs, le second jour de Novembre, lan de grace M^l^CCCXXVIJ.

11 Nov. 1327.

L. 156 *b*.

245.—Littera Capituli missa Majori et Baronibus de Sandwico de eodem quo supra.

The Prior undertakes that the men of Canterbury shall

A ses treschers amez en Dieu le Maire et Barons et tote la comunalte de Sandwyz, Henri par la suffraunce de Dieu Prieur et le Covent del Esglise de Canterbirs, saluz, et cheres amistes, et la joye perdurable

you want of materials for illumination and other things that you require, on condition that your friends at Canterbury, that is to say of the City, may be in no manner relieved by your people, and that upon this point let us have a warranty from you by letter, that the things you require shall go to you yourselves, and by no means elsewhere. Your favourable answer, if it be your pleasure, be good enough to send to us, and be you all commended to God. Written at Sandwich on Friday the Eve of All Saints.

244.

To his very dear and well-beloved in God, the Mayor and Barons of Sandwich, Henry by God's permission Prior of the Church of Canterbury, greeting, and health by land and sea, and the joy of Heaven. Very dear, friends, we thank you much for your gracious letter which you have lately sent to us, thanks be to you, and for your good will which you have shown to our Church and us. And please to be assured dear friends, that it would much displease us if any of our friends acted towards you otherwise than towards ourselves; and that we would not hold him for our friend who should desire to do to you damage or dishonour in any way. God be with you, and keep you and all belonging to you. Given at Canterbury, the second day of November, in the year of grace 1327.

245.

To his very dear friends in God, the Mayor and Barons and all the commonalty of Sandwich, Henry, by God's permission, the Prior and the Convent of the Church of Canterbury, greeting, and sincere friendship

not profit by the permission given to him to purchase provisions in Sandwich.

Pur ceo qe nous vous priames nadgeres par noz lettres, de bonement suffrir qe nous puissoms purver et achater en le port et la ville de Sandwyz ceo qe apent al honur de Dieu, et de nostre dite Esglise, et des corps seintz qe leinz reposent, et ausi vitailles et atures choses pur sustenance de nous et de noz amis; et sur ceo, vostre merci, vous otroiastes bonement et amiablement a nostre dite requeste, sicome vous nous mandastes apres pleynement par voz lettres, issi qe noz amis de Canterbirs, de la ville meismes, ne fuissent en nulle manere par nous confortez: voillez, treschers amis, certeignement saver qe touz ceaux qi sont voz amis nous tenoms pur noz amis; et pur autres, qi ne sont mie de vostre amiste, nous ne voloms faire nulle manere purveaunce ne confort, desques atant qe il soient bonement redressez vers vous, tant avant come nous le puissoms saver et entendre; mes soulement pur le honur de nostre dite Esglise, et pur nous meismes, et pur la sustenaunce de nostre meson, et de ceo qe ly apent. A Dieu qi vous gard et quant qe a vous apent. Donez en nostre Chapitle, le xj. jour de Novembre, lan de grace M^l^CCCXXVIJ.

(Nov. 1327.)

L. 157 *a*.

246.—Littera missa Priori Roffensi de appropriatione ecclesiæ de Westerham

The Prior in forwarding to the Prior of Rochester (the Bishop's Commissary in the matter of Westerham rectory) the list of

Suo suus, salutem quam sibi. Pro laboribus vestris onerosis favorabiliter impensis circa negotium appropriationis ecclesiæ de Westerham nobis facienda, grates vobis referimus quantas valemus, non quas tenemur, quia condignam vobis facere non possumus repensivam. Ad vestram igitur informationem planiorem, mittimus vobis, per confratres nostros W. de Norwico et Thomam de Bourne, præsentium portitores, specificationes pestilentiæ animalium nostrorum mortuorum, quas invenimus in rotulis annualibus compotorum, præ-

and eternal joy. Whereas we lately prayed you by letter, to kindly allow that we may be able to provide and buy in the port and the town of Sandwich what pertains to the honour of God, and of our said Church, and of the sacred bodies which therein repose; and also victuals and other things for the sustenance of us and of our friends; and thereupon, thanks be to you, you consented kindly and amicably to our said request, as you afterwards fully informed us by your letters, on condition that our friends of Canterbury, that is to say, of the City, should not in any manner be relieved by us; please be assured, very dear friends, that all those who are your friends we hold for our friends; and for others who are not in friendship with you, we do not desire in any way to make provision or (give) relief, until they shall be thoroughly reinstated with you (as far as we are able to know and understand it), but solely for the honour of our Church, and for ourselves, and for the sustenance of our House, and its appurtenances. God be with you and keep you and all belonging to you. Given in our Chapter House the 11th day of November, in the year of grace 1327.

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positorum et servientium maneriorum nostrorum, diligenter examinatis. Quibus si placet fidem indubiam adhibere, et super hiis et aliis dispendiosis eventibus nos contingentibus, alias coram vobis nuper compertis, venerabilem patrem Dominum Roffensem Episcopum, ad effectum appropriationis dictæ ecclesiæ de Westerham nobis faciendæ, per vestras litteras certiorare velitis; beneplacitum vestrum, in hiis et aliis quibuscunque, nobis fiducialiter rescribentes. Valete sicut valere vellemus in Christo. Datum Cantuariæ.

losses sustained by the Convent of Canterbury though the murrain (*see* p. 243) complains of the Bishop's excessive strictness in the business.

Magni rigoris est, et stricti juris exquisiti, in casu appropriationis ecclesiæ, quæ non est litigiosa sed mere gratiosa, specificare singulariter et singillatim omnia

loca pestilentiæ animalium nostrum mortuorum, quia secundum omnia jura, divina et humana, nichil refert si quis sentiat omnia dampna sua in uno loco vel in pluribus; divisio enim locorum, et rerum diversitas quantitatem non minuit dampni dati; et ideo, secundum juris æquitatem, sufficit probare summarie hujusmodi pestilentiam animalium nostrorum mortuorum, vel alia rerum, in illo casu, dispendia ad valorem fructuum ecclesiæ de cujus appropriatione agitur. [Et istam formam summariæ probationis tenet generaliter Sedes Apostolica in casu appropriationis ecclesiarum.][1]

25 Sept. and 29 Nov. 1327.

247.—Bulla de resignatione et provisione ecclesiæ Herefordensi de Domino Thoma de Charleton.

(Istam bullam recepimus Vigilia Sci. Andreæ Apostoli, anno Dni. M°CCC^mo^XXVIJ°.)

L. 157 *b*.

The Bull of *provision* by which the Pope appoints Thomas Charlton to the See of Hereford, in succession to Adam Orleton, whom he has translated to Worcester. The Pope here claims the right to fill all Sees which become vacant through *transla-*

Johannes episcopus, servus servorum Dei, venerabili fratri Archiepiscopo Cantuariensi, salutem et apostolicam benedictionem. Ad cumulum tuæ cedit salutis et famæ, si personas ecclesiasticas, præsertim pontificali dignitate præditas, divinæ propitiationis intuitu, oportuni præsidii et favoris gratia persequaris. Nuper siquidem vacante Ecclesia Herefordensi, pro eo quod venerabilem fratrem nostrum Adam Wygornensem, olim Herefordensem Episcopum, tunc et adhuc apud Sedem Apostolicam constitutum, a vinculo quo eidem Herefordensi Ecclesiæ tenebatur, de fratrum nostrorum consilio et apostolicæ potestatis plenitudine, absolventes, ipsum ad Ecclesiam Wygorniensem tunc vacantem, duximus transferendum, præficiendo eum illi in episcopum et pastorem. Nos itaque, attendentes quod nullus præter nos de ordinatione ipsius Ecclesiæ Herefordensis se ea vice intromittere poterat, pro eo quod nos, diu ante hujusmodi vacationem Ecclesiæ

[1] The clause in brackets is cancelled in the MS.

Herefordensis prædictæ, provisiones omnium Ecclesiarum cathedralium, tunc vacantium et vacaturarum imposterum per translationes per nos tunc temporis factas et ex tunc faciendas de prælatis earum ad alias Ecclesias, tunc vacantes et in antea vacaturas, dispositioni nostræ duximus reservandas, decernendo ex tunc irritum et inane si secus super hiis, per quoscunque, quavis auctoritate, scienter vel ignoranter, contingeret attemptari. De præficiendo eidem Herefordensi Ecclesiæ, ne prolixæ vacationis exponeretur incommodis, personam utilem, ac etiam fructuosam, per cujus industriam studiosam salubriter posset regi et dirigi, gubernari feliciter, ac utiliter adaugeri, cogitare cœpimus diligenter, et post deliberationem, quam cum eisdem fratribus nostris super hoc attentam habere curavimus, in dilectum filium Thomam de Charleton, Electum Herefordensem, Canonicum Eboracensem, in sacerdotio constitutum, juris civilis professorem, virum quidem (prout ex testimoniis fidedignis accepimus) vitæ munditia redimitum, decorum, elegantia morum discretionis et consilii maturitate conspicuum, aliarumque multiplicium virtutum titulis insignitum, aciem direximus nostræ mentis, quibus omnibus debita meditatione pensatis, de persona ejusdem Thomæ Electi eidem Herefordensi Ecclesiæ, de fratrum prædictorum consilio, auctoritate apostolica duximus providendum; ipsumque illi præfecimus in episcopum et pastorem, curam et administrationem illius sibi, tam in spiritualibus quam in temporalibus, plenarie committendo; in eo a quo universorum carismatum dona proveniunt confidentes, quod prædicta Ecclesia Herefordensis, per ipsius Electi diligentiæ studium fructuosum, clementia sibi opitulante divina, votiva honoris et commodi suscipiat incrementa. Ut igitur idem Electus, in commisso prædictæ Herefordensis Ecclesiæ sibi regimine,[1] facilius proficere valeat tuus favor eidem fore nos-

tions effected by the Apostolic See. This is the Bull alluded to in the letter 249.

[1] The text of the MS. is very corrupt at this part, and is here corrected from Abp. Parker's lives—Meopham. (Lond. 1729.)

catur plurimum oportunus, fraternitatem tuam rogamus et hortamur attente, per apostolica tibi scripta mandantes quatinus, prædictos Electum et Ecclesiam Herefordenses habens, pro nostra et dictæ Sedis reverentia, propensius commendatos, in ampliandis et conservandis juribus suis et ipsius Ecclesiæ, sic eundem Electum tui favoris præsidio persequaris, quod ipse, tuo fultus auxilio, in commisso sibi Ecclesiæ Herefordensis prædictæ regimine se possit utilius exercere, tuque divinam misericordiam, et benevolentiam dictæ Sedis exinde valeas promereri. Data Avinoniæ, vij. Kal. Octobris, pontificatus nostri anno duodecimo.

1 Dec. 1327.

L. 157 *a*.

248.—De gratia promissa alicui facienda eidem.

The Prior asks the Warden of Merton to perform his promise made to the late Archbishop of providing for a kinsman of his by giving him a scholarship among the founder's kin of the College.

Præclari nominis et vitæ laudabilis amicis suis Custodi et Scholaribus Domus de Merton in Oxonia, devotus suus H(enricus), etc. salutem in Christo, in quo totius salutis summa consistit. Ad ea quæ, etc.[1] Cum igitur celebris memoriæ Dominus W(alterus) nuper Archiepiscopus noster Cantuariensis inevitabile solverit carnis tributum, cujus animæ sit propitius ipsius Conditor et Redemptor, ad cujus instantiam et rogatum dum adhuc viveret, juxta petitionis suæ formam, promptis animis concessistis Willelmo dicto Perschore de Windesor, consanguineo dicti patris, cum pueris de genere fundatoris vestri gratiam commorandi, prout in vestrarum apicibus litterarum eidem patri directarum vidimus contineri; devotionem vestram requirimus et rogamus, ut dictus Willelmus hujusmodi munificentiam vestram generosam, liberaliter sibi concessam, effectualiter sentiat fructuosam, pro dicti patris reverentia, vestrique honoris et gratiæ augmento, nostrique devoti rogaminis interventu;

[1] This abbreviated clause seems to refer to a previous letter, the tenor of which the writer did not think it necessary to repeat.

multorum siquidem pietatis viscera commoveret, si consanguineus tanti patris post mortem ipsius hostiatim victualia mendicaret. Valete sicut valere vellemus in Christo pro suæ Matris et Beati Martiris Thomæ merita gloriosa. Datum Cantuariæ, primo die Decembris, anno Domini M°CCC^mo°XXVIJ°. (Dec. 1327.)

L. 157 *b*.

249.—Responsio Prioris ad petitionem procuratoris Electi Wygorniensi pro consecratione ejusdem

The Prior refuses to grant a petition made by Master Nicholas, the proctor of Adam Orleton, late Bishop of Hereford translated to Worcester. The Prior states that the granting of the petition would be a contravention of the *Bull of provision* given to Orleton.

Magister Nicholae, bene andivimus petitionem tuam, nomine domini tui Electi Wygorniensis confirmati, nobis pluries factam. Set quia in litteris apostolicis, per venerabilem fratrem Thomam Herefordensem Episcopum nobis exhibitis et notificatis, et in Ecclesia nostra coram clero et populo publice et sollempniter publicatis, vidimus contineri, quod Sanctissimus Pater Dominus Johannes Papa xxij^dus Dominum Adamum nuper Herefordensem Episcopum a vinculo, quo eidem Herefordensi Ecclesiæ tenebatur, absolvit, et ipsum ad Ecclesiam Wygorniensem, tunc vacantem, transtulit, præficiendo eum illi in Episcopum et pastorem, tuam petitionem concedere non possumus absque Apostolicæ Sedis offensa.

250.—De confirmatione et appropriatione Ecclesiæ de Westerham. (Dec. 1327.)

L. 158 *a*.

The Prior of Canterbury asks the Chapter of Rochester to confirm the appropriation of the rectory of Westerham made

Sacræ religionis viris et amicis suis in Christo carissimis, Domino Priori et Capitulo Ecclesiæ cathedralis Roffensis, Henricus permissione divina Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis et ejusdem loci Capitulum, salutem, et in agro dominico jugiter prosperari. Inducit honestas, excitat utilitas, et ratio persuadet ut Christi milites, sub uno principe militantes, alter alterius onera mutuo supportent, ut sic quæ Dei sunt

to his Convent by the Bishop of Rochester.

Deo reddant, et quæ sunt proximi lege naturali proximis gratanter impendant. Sane venerabilis pater Dominus Roffensis Episcopus, circumspecte considerans dampna gravia et varios eventus dispendiosos quæ nos et Ecclesia nostra prædicta, magnis decursis temporibus, sustinuimus, et adhuc nos deprimunt in præsenti. Devotionem vestram et sinseram in Domino caritatem corditer deprecamur, ut præfati patris Domini Episcopi gratuitam benevolentiam in præmissis, cum de ipsa vobis constiterit, acceptare, ratificare, et gratificare velitis, ad honorem Dei, et suæ Matris, et Beati Thomæ Martiris gloriosi; beneplacitum vestrum in hiis et aliis nunc et alias nobis fiducialiter rescribentes per præsentium portitorem. Optime valeatis sicut et nos valere vellemus. Datum in Capitulo nostro, &c. [1][. . . more piissimi patris et pastoris compatiendo, in animo suo disposuit amaritudines nostras suis uberibus mellifluis temperare, et depressiones nostras, per appropriationem ecclesiæ de Westerham cum capella de Edulwesbrigg nobis canonice faciendam, feliciter relevare. Et quia æquitatis statera exigit et requirit ut membra corporis suo capiti se conforment . . .].

30 Dec. 1327.

L. 158 *a*.

251.—De eodem.

The Prior of Canterbury informs the Bishop of Rochester that the Chapter of Rochester are willing to confirm his appropriation of the rectory

Suo patri, devotus filius id quod possit reverentiæ et honoris. Cum nuper nos et Capitulum nostrum per litteras nostras Domino Priori et Capitulo Ecclesiæ vestræ cathedralis Roffensis intimaverimus quod vestra paternitas, circumspecte considerans gravia dampna, etc., ut sic dicti Dominus Prior et Capitulum per suarum apices litterarum rescripserunt, quod benevolentiam

[1] This clause follows *deprimunt in præsenti* in the MS., but it is there cancelled, as though the writer by an after-thought considered that he was giving the Bishop too much credit for generosity.

vestram, quoad appropriationem prædictæ ecclesiæ de Westerham nobis faciendam, cum ipsis de dicta appropriatione plene constiterit, ratam cum omni devotione et gratam habere volunt, pariter et acceptam. Quocirca paternitati vestræ requirimus et rogamus, quod, cum super præmissis cum dictis Domino Priore et Capitulo vestro Roffensi colloquium habueritis et tractatum, placeat vobis sibi facere mentionem de hujusmodi ratificatione, gratificatione, et acceptatione per ipsos nobis concessas. Valeat et vigeat vestra paternitas in prosperitate felici. Datum Cantuariæ, iij. kalendas Januarii, anno Domini MCCCXXVIJ°.

of Westerham, as soon as they are officially made aware of it; he therefore asks the Bishop to announce the facts to his Chapter.

252.—APPROPRIACIO ECCLESIÆ DE WESTERHAM, ET DOTATIO VICARIÆ.

Cart. Ant. W. 165.

5 Jan. 1328.

Frater Hamo permissione divina Roffensis Episcopus, dilectis sibi in Christo religiosis viris Priori et Capitulo Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, salutem in Domino sempiternam. Gesta mirifica gloriosi Martiris Thomæ, qui pro libertate Ecclesiæ servanda, ac bonorum et jurium ejusdem tuitione, dira carnificum verbera et vulnera non formidans, sub palma martirii Sanctorum reverendo collegio meruit aggregari, pulsant instanter et excitant mentem nostram, ut eandem Ecclesiam spiritualibus beneficiis ampliemus, graciis prosequamur uberibus, et honoribus præcipuis attollamus, ejus dampnosis eventibus, dispendiis, et jacturis, paternis studiis obviando. Exposita siquidem nobis vestra petitio continebat, quod Ecclesia vestra dampna gravia sustinuit et sustinet in præsenti, pro eo quod temporis operante malicia, possessiones vestræ steriles jam effectæ, fructus vobis non afferunt consuetos. In bona eciam vestra et Ecclesiæ vestræ in partibus maritimis constituta fluctus maris insiluerunt et insiliunt, illa pro magna parte dissipantes. Quodque animalia vestra, pestilenti morbo percussa,

The Bishop of Rochester, in consideration of the great losses which the Convent has suffered, consents to the appropriation to it of the Church of Westerham, with the Chapel of Edenbridge annexed. At the same time he endows a perpetual vicarage in the Church so appropriated, and provides for

the payment of the dues to which the benefice is subject.

pro majori parte ipsorum hactenus perierunt. Terras eciam vestras fructiferas, latas, et spaciosas, de quibus ducentas marcas sterlingorum et amplius percipere consuevistis annuatim, inundaciones maris in salsuginem irreparabiliter transtulerunt; ita quod nullus fructus vobis provenit, nec in futurum provenire speratur ex eisdem. Necnon frequentes, et quasi cotidiani et continui, ad vos concursus et recursus ingrediencium et egrediencium regnum Angliæ, quos fugere non potestis nec a vobis fugare, annonam vestram multipliciter minuunt et consumunt. Insuper pro defendendis et conservandis juribus et libertatibus Ecclesiæ vestræ prædictæ diversis temporibus non modica supportastis, et quasi assidue supportatis onera expensarum. Et propter hujusmodi varios et dispendiosos eventus facultates Ecclesiæ vestræ adeo diminutæ ac attenuatæ dinoscuntur, quod ex eis hospitalitates et alia caritatis opera consueta, necessitate urgente, multipliciter subtrahuntur, vosque juxta vestram ac Ecclesiæ vestræ prædictæ honorificenciam vestris non valetis oportunitatibus providere. Quare nobis supplicastis ut, causis prædictis per nos diligencius examinatis et consideratis, Ecclesiam parochialem de Westerham, nostræ diœcesis, cum capella de Edulwesbrugg eidem annexa, quæ de patronatu vestro existit, vobis, in continuacionem soliti cultus divini et deperditorum recompensacionem concedere curaremus in proprios usus perpetuo possidendam. Nos igitur, contra prædictorum dispendiorum vestrorum et Ecclesiæ vestræ incommoda, ex causis inducti superscriptis, paterna compassione prospicere cupientes, super causis et oneribus prædictis et ipsarum veritate vocatis ad hoc evocandis, per viros fidedignos, clericos et laicos de dicenda veritate juratos, inquiri fecimus diligenter. Et quia per inquisicionem sic factam, et alia legitima documenta, prædictas causas, superius propositas et suggestas, invenimus esse veras atque

justas; habito consilio et tractatu diligenti super hiis cum Capitulo nostro aliisque jurisperitis, dictas appropriacionis causas, per vos nobis expositas, plenarie probatas esse, et ad appropriandam vobis dictam ecclesiam de Westerham, cum capella sua prædicta eidem annexa, vestri patronatus, et pertinenciis suis, sufficientes esse et de jure sufficere debere, juris ordine qui requiritur in hac parte in omnibus observato, tenore præsencium pronunciamus, diffinimus, et declaramus; et dictam ecclesiam, cum capella sua prædicta et omnibus pertinenciis suis, ex hiis et aliis causis legitimis nos moventibus, ad laudem et honorem individuæ Trinitatis, et gloriosæ Virginis Mariæ, ac Beati Thomæ Martiris, vobis et successoribus vestris, de consilio et assensu Capituli nostri Roffensis, appropriamus, et præsentis scripti tenore in usus vestros concedimus et assignamus, per vos et vestros ut prætangitur successores perpetuo possidendam. Ita, videlicet, quod cedente vel decedente Magistro Ricardo de Haute rectore ejusdem ecclesiæ qui nunc est, ipsam ecclesiam, hac nostra auctoritate, nullius requisito consensu, libere ingredi valeatis, et eandem, cum suis juribus et pertinenciis universis ut prædicitur, licite retinere; nostro aliove consensu in hac parte minime requisito; salvis nobis et successoribus nostris obediencia canonica per vos et successores vestros racione dictæ ecclesiæ præstanda, ac visitacione, aliisque juribus nostræ Roffensi Ecclesiæ et ejusdem Episcopo, necnon Archidiacono loci debitis de consuetudine vel de jure; et ut Magister Ricardus, rector antedictus, quamdiu prædictam ecclesiam tenuerit, ipsam una cum capella prædicta nomine vestro possideat volumus et statuimus; ac ex certa sciencia, de ipsius rectoris expresso consensu, ordinamus quod idem rector, quamdiu prædictam ecclesiam tenuerit, annuam pensionem septem denariorum sterlingorum de eadem ecclesia et capella vobis singulis annis, in festo

Nativitatis Domini, persolvat. Salva insuper in dicta ecclesia perpetua vicaria (quam ex nunc ordinamus, tunc demum cedente vel decedente rectore ejusdem effectum habitura) et congrua porcione quam ad decem marcas sterlingorum, quantum ad decimas solvendas cum contigerint et alia onera incumbencia subeunda, taxamus, pro vicario perpetuo ibidem, per nos et successores nostros ad vestram præsentacionem instituendo; quam porcionem in decimis silvæ cædue, pannagii, fœni, herbagii, lini, canibi,[1] lactis, butiri et casei, lanæ agnorum, vitulorum, aucarum, pomorum, columbarum, molendinorum, piscariarum, aucupacionum, negociacionum, et aliis minutis decimis, necnon mortuariis ecclesiæ legatis, et oblacionibus, ac competenti area in solo ad prædictam ecclesiam pertinente, per nos designanda et limitanda, et per vos pro mora vicarii prima vice competenter ædificanda, consistere volumus, et perpetuo debere consistere in hiis scriptis statuimus, diffinimus, et declaramus. Vicarius siquidem qui pro tempore fuerit libros ligari, vestimenta lavari, reparari, et refici faciet quociens opus fuerit; panem, vinum, et cereos processionales et alia luminaria in cancello necessaria, et consuetos ministros, tam in ecclesia de Westerham quam in capella de Edulwesbrugg ab eadem dependente, inveniet, et suis sumptibus providebit. Domos eciam vicariæ suæ, postquam per vos prima vice fuerint ædificatæ, conservabit et sustinebit sumptibus suis. Cathedraticum et procuracionem archidiaconalem insolidum persolvet. Decimam vero et alia onera extraordinaria incumbencia seu imponenda pro rata porcionis suæ, secundum taxacionem prædictam, subibit et agnoscet. Alia autem onera ordinaria insolidum, et extraordinaria pro rata porcionis vestræ, quam ad quadraginta marcas æstimamus, vestris sumptibus subibitis et agnoscetis imperpetuum. Reservamus eciam nobis et

[1] Sic MS.

successoribus nostris in ecclesia de Westerham prædicta, de consensu Capituli nostri prædicti, annuam pensionem decem solidorum sterlingorum, in festo Omnium Sanctorum singulis annis solvendam, pro fructibus ad rectorem cedentem vel decedentem minime pertinentibus; quos Episcopi Roffenses tempore vacacionis ipsius ecclesiæ consueverunt percipere in eadem. In quorum omnium testimonium, etc. Data apud Halling, vicesimo quinto die mensis Januarii, anno Domini Millesimo trecentesimo vicesimo septimo.

253.—Episcopo Roffensi de regraciacione ejusdem appropriacionis. (Jan. 1328.)

L. 154 *a*.

The Prior thanks the Bishop of Rochester for consenting to the appropriation of Westerham Rectory. In a postscript, after alluding to a list of losses sustained by the Convent (*see* p. 243) he relates another calamity occurring from a broken Sea-wall.

Suo patri Domino Episcopo Roffensi, etc. Verba Redemptoris, in scrinio vestri cordis abolim plantata, in pectore vestro subreptant, et pullulant, ac virescunt quociens in mente vestra versatur hujusmodi parabola Salvatoris: *Qui petit accipit, et qui quærit invenit, et pulsanti aperietur.* Et quia hujusmodi legem evangelicam pocius adimplere quam solvere decrevistis, vobis retribuat Lator hujus legis divinæ. Quod nostrum igitur est in hac parte, juxta discrecionis vestræ arbitrium faciemus. Valeat et vigeat vestra paternitas, etc.

Adhuc pater, licet vobis nuper significavimus quosdam dispendiosos eventus intolerabiles quos sentimus in certis locis in partibus mariscorum de Romene, qui publici sunt et notorii in partibus illis et in locis vicinis; alias tamen dampnosas jacturas irrecuperabiles in manerio nostro de Middelton in Comitatu Essexiæ super Tamisiam sentimus; in quo quidem manerio quadringentas acras terræ fructiferas et unum molendinum aquaticum habere solebamus, de quibus magnos fructus et proventus percipere consuevimus annuatim; quæ omnia inundaciones maris nunc operiunt bis in die naturali; ita quod naves mercimoniis oneratæ terras illas salsugine correptas[1] libere possunt

[1] *corruptas* MS.

transire. Et quia præmissa publica sunt et notoria minus indigent probacione sollempni.

28 Jan. 1328.

L. 160 *b*.

254.—Littera missa Domino Thomæ de Alkham pro Appropriatione ecclesiæ de Westerham.

The Prior, writing to T. de Alkham (who was both Commissary to the Bishop of Rochester and the advocate of the chapter of Canterbury in the appropriation of Westerham rectory) points out that the ordination deed of the new vicarage does some injustice to the new rectors.

Salutem quam sibi. Mittimus vobis duas litteras patentes, sigillo nostro communi signatas, venerabili patri Domino Episcopo Roffensi tradendas, juxta tractatum inter nos pridie prolocutum: Scientes quod, priusquam de Cantuaria recessistis, intelleximus per quosdam titulos et memorandum Magistri Johannis de Redingate quondam rectoris ecclesiæ de Westerham, immediati prædecessoris Magistri R. de Haute nunc rectoris ejusdem, quod tempore dicti Magistri J., duo presbyteri, dictæ ecclesiæ de Westerham et capellæ, receperunt omnes oblationes et obventiones utriusque alteragii, tam ecclesiæ quam capellæ; necnon decimas silvæ cæduæ, pannagii, herbagii, lini, cannabi, lactis, butyri, casei, lanæ agnorum, vitulorum, aucarum, pomorum, columbarum, molendinorum, piscariarum, avicaptionum, negotiationum, et alias minutas decimas, necnon mortuaria mortua, videlicet, optimum indumentum cujuslibet parochiani defuncti qui unum animal non habebat; item: ecclesiæ legata. Et quod portiones præscriptæ, tempore prædicti J., per juramentum fidedignorum ejusdem parochiæ, æstimatæ et appreciatæ fuerunt ad xx marcas. sterlingorum per annum. Et de hujusmodi portionibus duo presbyteri solverunt annuatim dicto Magistro J. quinque marcas sterlingorum, et totum residuum remansit duobus presbiteris pro suo servitio et labore.

Item: dictus Magister J. retinuit annuatim penes se decimam fœni, quæ valet per annum xl. solidos sterlingorum. Item: idem J. retinuit penes se annuatim omnia mortuaria viva tam ecclesiæ quam capellæ, quæ valent communibus annis ij. marcas sterlingorum et

aliquando l. solidos; ita quod dictus Magister J. percipit singulis annis de portionibus prædictis x. marcas sterlingorum. Et totum residuum, sicut prædictum est, remansit duobus presbyteris prædictis.

Item: Eodem modo Magister R. de Haute tempore suo et dicti duo presbyteri receperunt omnes portiones præscriptas, hoc excepto, quod dictus Magister R. aliquando remisit unam marcam et aliquando dimidiam marcam dictis duobus presbyteris, de gratia speciali.

Omnes vero portiones prædictas, quæ ad xx. marcas sterlingorum, ut præmittitur, taxantur, præfatus Dominus Episcopus Roffensis reservavit perpetuo vicario dictæ ecclesiæ de Westerham, et uni presbytero capellæ ejusdem, quæ ipsis decrevit sufficere habundanter. Et ideo rogamus vos quod velitis plenius informare dictum Dominum Episcopum super præmissis, et litteras patentes dicti patris super appropriatione dictæ ecclesiæ de Westerham nobis factas, per bajulum præsentium, nobis destinare. Valete sicut valere vellemus in Christo. Data Cantuariæ xxviij. die Januarii.

255.—Supplicatio pro aliquo subsidio gratiose faciendo scolari studenti.

6 Feb. 1328.

L. 160 *b*.

The Prior, after thanking the Warden of Merton for his goodness to the scholar lately recommended by him, asks him to give a scholarship or

Discretis et dilectissimus sibi in Christo Magistro J. de Wanting, Custodi Domus de Merton, Oxoniæ, et ejusdem loci scolaribus, H(enricus) permissione divina Prior, etc. salutem illam quam peperit quæ sola post partum virgo permansit. Quanto gratiosius apud vos exaudiri speramus, tanto fiducialius vobis communicamus desideria nostri cordis. Grates igitur vobis referimus, quantas possumus non quas tenemur, pro beneficiis Willelmo dicto Perschor de Wyndesor, consanguineo celebris memoriæ Domini Walteri nuper Archiepiscopi nostri, concessis; devotionem vestram et

exhibition to another nominee of his.

dilectionem corditer requirentes, quatinus Willelmo filio Thomæ de Medmenham, clerici nostri dilecti, ad ostium clementiæ vestræ pulsanti, velitis aliqua caritatis vestræ subsidia ministrare, divinæ magestatis intuitu et nostri rogaminis interventu; ut, de munificentia vestra gratuita relevatus, liberius apud Oxoniam studere valeat, et in Ecclesia Dei fructum proferre temporibus successivis. Beneplacitum vestrum in hiis et aliis nobis significantes fiducialiter tanquam vestro, valeat et vigeat vestra sancta comitiva in prosperitate felici. Datum Cantuariæ, vj^to^ die Februarii, anno Domini MCCCXXVIJ^o^.

30 Sept. 1328.

256.—Pro Roberto de Ely.

L. 161 *b*.

The Prior recommends a London citizen, who has been purveyor for the Convent (and an obliging creditor) as a fit person to fill the office of Manciple to the new Archbishop.

Suo patri, id quod devotus filius scit et potest. Quia Robertus de Ely, civis Londoniensis, magno tempore providus et discretus creditor noster, et provisor extitit de esculentis, et poculentis, et aliis, Conventui nostro, et nobis, ac amicis nostris ad nos confluentibus, necessariis, nunc et temporibus retroactis; cujus sagacem industriam nobis fructuosam sumus experti, ac vos tali ministerio obsequiali, prout credimus, indigetis; deliberetis, si placet, super præmissis, et juxta vestrum beneplacitum ulterius procedatis. Nos vero quod in hac parte scimus loquimur, et quod vidimus contestamur. Valeat et prospere vigeat vestra paternitas, ad regimen Ecclesiæ sanctæ Dei. Datum Cantuariæ ultimo die Septembris, anno Dni. MCCCXXVIIJ^vo^.

2 Oct. 1328.

257.—Citatio Præpositi de Wyngham et aliorum de coadjutore eidem Præposito assignando.

L. 161 *b*.

The Provost of Wingham

Henricus permissione divina Prior, etc. venerabilis patris Domini Simonis Dei gratia Cantuariensis Archiepiscopi, etc. Commissarius ad infrascripta specia-

liter deputatus, discreto viro Præposito Ecclesiæ collegiatæ de Wyngham, salutem in Auctore salutis. Mandatum dicti patris recepimus in hæc verba: "Simon permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, totius Angliæ Primas, dilecto filio Domino Henrico, Priori Ecclesiæ nostræ Cantuariensis, salutem, gratiam, et benedictionem. Ad nostram notitiam, quorundam fidedignorum relatione, pervenit, quod dilectus nobis Præpositus Ecclesiæ de Wyngham ad tantam imbecillitatem corporis jam deducitur, quod curæ sibi commissæ intendere non poterit, bonaque sua, occasione imbecillitatis prædictæ manus temerariæ delapidant et consumunt. Volentes igiter super hiis adhibere remedium, ut tenemur, vobis injungimus et mandamus, quatinus ad Ecclesiam de Wyngham, vice nostra, personaliter accedentes, de statu dicti Domini Præpositi diligentius inquiratis. Et cum eodem tractatu habito personali, si inveneritis præmissa nobis suggesta veritate fulciri, de consensu dicti Domini Præpositi, et ex nominatione ejusdem, aliquem providum virum et ydoneum sibi deputetis, auctoritate nostra, coadjutorem. Et quid feceritis in hac parte nos, quamcitius commode potueritis, certificetis per litteras vestras patentes harum seriem continentes. Data apud Mortelake iij° kal. Octobris, anno Dni. M°CCC^mo°XXVIIJ^vo, et consecrationis nostræ primo." Cujus auctoritate mandati peremptorie vos citamus, et per vos omnes et singulos concanonicos vestros, necnon omnes capellanos, et clericos non canonicos ministrantes in Ecclesia prædicta de Wyngham, et sex parochianos ejusdem Ecclesiæ fidedignos, peremptorie citari volumus et mandamus, quod compareatis et compareant coram nobis in ecclesia de Wyngham supradicta, die Lunæ proximo post festum Sanctæ Fidei virginis proxime venturum, super requirendis a vobis et ab eisdem dictum mandatum contingentibus plenam dicturi

College having become too feeble to perform his duties, the Archbishop has ordered an inquisition to be taken by the Prior of Canterbury, his Commissary specially appointed for the business. The Prior therefore cites the Provost and the other members of the College.

veritatem, facturi ulterius et recepturi quod dictum mandatum exigit et requirit. Et quid inde feceritis nos dictis die et loco certificetis per litteras vestras patentes, harum seriem continentes. Data Cantuariæ secundo die Octobris, anno Dni. supradicto.

19 Oct. 1328.

L. 162 *a*.

The inquisition having been held, the debility of the Provost has been certified, and in consequence the Prior, at the nomi-

258.—Commissio coadjutoris Præpositi de Wyngham.

Henricus permissione divina Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, venerabilis patris Domini Simonis Dei gratia Cantuariensis Archiepiscopi, etc., Commissarius ad infrascripta specialiter deputatus, discreto viro Domino Ricardo Rectori ecclesiæ de Monketon in Taneto, salutem in Auctore salutis. Mandatum dicti patris nuper recepimus, tenorem continens infrascriptum: "Simon permissione divina Cantuariensis Archi- "episcopus," *etc. ut supra in littera proxima præcedente.* Hujus igitur auctoritate mandati ad dictam

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(Nov. 1328.)

L. 163 *b*.

The agent at Paris of the Chapter of Canterbury is required to pay to a Parisian banker the balance in his hands due to the Chapter for the wine of St. Thomas; and to obtain from the banker a bill of exchange drawn upon his London agents.

259.—Littera missa Domino J. Launge.

A son trescher et bien ame en Dieu Monsire Johan Launge, Henri Prieur, etc. saluz et la joye perdurable. Pur ceo qe nous desiroms moult de aver et oir bones noveles de vous, nous vous prioms qe vous nous mandez par le portour de ceste lettre, ou par autre, vostre estat ausi tost come vous purrez. Et voillez ausi bailler a Pierre Galais, marchant de Paris, les deners qe vous avez recu de noz vins de France, del an de grace M[l]CCCXXVIJ.; et nous mandez par voz lettres combien vous baillerez al dit Pierres; et prenez ses lettres a ses compaynons marchantz qi sont a Londres, qe il payent tant a nous a Londres; et mandez nous les lettres le dit Pierres ausi tost come vous purrez. A Dieu, qi vous gard et quant qe a vous apent. Donez a Canterbire, etc.

Ecclesiam de Wyngham nuper personaliter accedentes, quia constat nobis evidenter, per inquisitionem, diligentius inde factam, et per alia legitima documenta, quod imbecillitas corporis manifesta, et membrorum destitutio intolerabilis, necnon alia senectutis incommoda, præfatum Præpositum multipliciter circumveniunt usquequaque, quominus curæ dictæ præposituræ (quæ grandis est et oneribus continuis subjecta) intendere non potest, prout hujusmodi cura exigit et requirit; nos sagacem industriam vestram et alia probitatis vestræ merita propensius considerantes, auctoritate præfati patris, et usque ad ipsius beneplacitum, de consensu et nominatione ejusdem Præpositi, vos suum deputamus coadjutorem, fideliter facturum super præmissis prout dictant canonicæ sanctiones. Datum Cantuariæ xix^no^ die Octobris, anno supradicto.

nation of the feeble Provost, appoints the Rector Mcnkton to act as the coadjutor of the latter.

259.

To his very dear and well-beloved in God, Sir John Launge, Henry, Prior, &c., greeting, and lasting joy. Whereas we much desire to have and hear good news of you, we pray you that you will send word to us, by the bearer of this letter or by another, of your health, as soon as you can. And be pleased also to hand to Peter Galais, merchant of Paris, the money which you have received for our French wines of the year 1327, and let us know by your letters, how much you shall have given to the said Peter; and take his bill drawn upon his partners, who are London merchants, that they may pay the same sum to us at London; and send us this bill of the said Peters as soon as you can. God be with you, and keep you and all belonging to you. Given at Canterbury, &c.

16 Dec. 1328.

L. 164 *b*.

260.—Littera directa Domino Simoni Archiepiscopo pro communibus negotiis regni.

The Prior warns the new Archbishop to walk circumspectly, and conformably to the high position he holds.

Suo patri. Vestræ paternitatis litteras et copiam litterarum Dominorum Comitis Marescalli et Kanciæ nuper recipi, varia et ardua, et magnis subjecta periculis continentes. Et ideo, pater reverende, memoriter recolatis qualiter in Ecclesia occidentali primatum tenetis et vices Apostolorum (quibus omnia erant communia nec quisque ipsorum aliquid suum esse dicebat) in terra geritis hiis diebus; nec in progressu vestro aliqualiter claudicetis in dexteram vel sinistram; sed mediam viam teneatis, prout tenuit Dei et hominum Mediator, propensius considerantes quod, post personam Domini Regis, ad regimen regni estis principaliter obligati. Super præmissis igitur deliberetis cum ipsis qui volunt et possunt prodesse et non obesse, quia vobis imputabitur quicquid ex præmissis prosperum vel adversum sequetur. Valete et valeant qui vos valere desiderant et vigere. Scriptum Cantuariæ, xvj^to^ die Decembris, quo die recepi litteras vestras prædictas.

1328.

L. 164 *b*.

261.—Littera directa Abbati Westmonasterii de provisione beneficii Johanni de Cirencestria facienda.

The new the Archbishop has appointed the Abbot of Westmister his special Commissary for executing the commands of certain papal

Reverendo patri Domino . . . Dei gratia Abbati Westmonasterii, H(enricus) permissione ejusdem Prior, etc. salutem in eo quem peperit quæ sola post partum virgo permansit. Quia nuper, iiij^to^ kalendas Januarii, nostris auribus insonuit quod vos, vice et auctoritate venerabilis patris Domini Simonis Archiepiscopi nostri, in crastino festi Crucifixionis Domini jam instantis, in ecclesia vestra Westmonasteriensi, super ydoneitate personæ Johannis de Cirencestria clerici, et si sit vitæ laudabilis, et honestæ conversationis, ad ecclesiasticum

beneficium optinendum, et quod aliud beneficium ecclesiasticum non optineat, intenditis inquirere; non possumus non mirari eo quod de litteris apostolicis originalibus, nec de hujusmodi negotio provisionis, per quoscunque nobis hactenus nichil constabat; quia dictum negotium provisionis specialiter nos, et Ecclesiam nostram, et privilegia nostra, contingit, quibus præjudicare, nec ab eisdem recedere intendimus quovis modo. Et ne circumveniamur in brevitate temporis per vos assignati ad hujusmodi inquisitionem capiendam, in quo actus judiciales in causis et negotiis litigiosis non solent hactenus exerceri, paternitatem vestram requirimus et rogamus, quod, super hujusmodi inquisitione capienda velitis supersedere, quousque prædictus venerabilis pater Dominus Archiepiscopus noster super hiis, quæ nos et Ecclesiam suam Cantuariensem specialiter in hac parte concernunt, plenius informetur; beneplacitum vestrum in hiis et aliis nobis, per bajulum præsentium, rescribentes. Valete sicut valere vellemus in Christo. Data Cantuariæ iij. kalendas Januarii, anno Domini M°CCC^mo°XXVIIJ°.

letters. This being an infringement of the privileges of the Chapter of the Archbishop's Cathedral Church, the Abbot is warned to suspend his action.

262.—Littera directa Domino Simoni Archiepiscopo pro eodem.

30 Dec. 1328.

L. 165 *a*.

Venerabili in Christo patri Domino Simoni Dei gratia Cantuariensi Archiepiscopo, etc. devoti filii Henricus Prior et Capitulum Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, salutem cum omni obedientia, reverentia, et honore debitis tanto patri. Litteras patentes Abbatis Westmonasteriensis, specialis Commissarii vestri, die Jovis in festo Passionis gloriosi martyris Thomæ, prædecessoris vestri, recepimus, tenorem continentes præsentibus involutum. Super hiis igitur admiramur, eo quod de letteris apostolicis originalibus, nec de hujusmodi negotio provisionis, per quoscunque, nobis hactenus nichil constabat, quia dictum negotium

A notice similar to the preceding is sent to the Archbishop himself.

provisionis specialiter nos, et Ecclesiam nostram, et privilegia nostra, contingit; quibus præjudicare, nec ab eisdem recedere intendimus quovismodo. Et ne circumveniamur in brevitate temporis per dictum Abbatem assignati ad hujusmodi inquisitionem, auctoritate vestra, capiendam, in quo actus judiciales in causis et negotiis litigiosis non solent hactenus exerceri; paternitatem vestram requirimus et rogamus, quatinus, super hujusmodi provisionis negotium velitis supersedere, et præfato Abbati quod hoc idem faciat, per litteras vestras, mandare, donec de juribus et privilegiis nostris in hac parte plenius fueritis informati. Nec visum est hactenus, nec auditum, quod Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus auctoritatem suam commiserit alicui Abbati, vel alteri personæ exemptæ, ad faciendum aliquam executionem dispendiosam nec præjudicialem contra Capitulum et privilegia apostolica Ecclesiæ suæ Cantuariensis. Beneplacitum vestrum in hiis et aliis nobis per bajulum præsentium renuntiare velitis. Data in Capitulo nostro, iij° kalendas Januarii, anno Dni. supradicto.

11 Nov. 1328.

L. 162 *a*.

263.—De commissione causæ ecclesiæ de Waddon Eliensis diœcesis.

The Prior, at the instigation of a member of the firm of the Bardi of Florence, interested as a party in the cause, asks the Archbishop to take steps for the speedy termina-

Suo patri devotus filius id quod possit obedientiæ, reverentiæ, et honoris. Ad requisitionem dilecti nostri, vobis devoti, Petri Byne, mercatoris de Societate Bardorum, nos instanter rogantis, paternitatem vestram requirimus et rogamus, quatinus causam quæ in Curia vestra Cantuariensi aliquamdiu vertebatur, et nunc coram vobis pendere dicitur indecisa, occasione ecclesiæ de Waddon Eliensis diœcesis, inter Johannem de Staunford clericum actorem ex parte una, et Nicholaum Bandini de Falconor' ex altera, committere velitis Magistris Thomæ de Cherminster examinatore, et Laurentio Fastolfe, et Thomæ de Bedeford, advocatis

Curiæ vestræ prædictæ, vel duobus ipsorum, audiendam, examinandam, et fine debito terminandam. Valeat et prospere vigeat vita vestra in lacu miseriæ mundiali. Datum Cantuariæ die Sci. Martini, anno Dni. etc. tion of an ecclesiastical suit.

11 Nov. 1328.

264.—Acquietantia de lx. solidis receptis de Præposito de Bockyng.

L. 162 *b*.

Universis pateat per præsentes quod nos Henricus, etc., recepimus de Ricardo Spice, serviente nostro de Bockyng, lx. solidos sterlingorum, quos recepit de Fratre Waltero de Norwico nuper custode manerii nostri prædicti, et quos idem Ricardus solvisse debuit, et non solvit, pro decima Domino Regi per clerum apud Leycestriam dudum concessa, pro secundo termino decimæ prædictæ. In cujus rei testimonium has litteras nostras, etc. Data Cantuariæ, die Sci. Martini in hyeme, anno secundo regni Regis Edwardi tertii post conquestum. Et si aliqua obligatio, tallia, vel indentura de prædictis lx. solidis imposterum appareat, irrita sit et inanis, et pro nullo penitus habeatur. The former steward of the Manor of Bocking, having received the money to pay a King's disme, has failed to do so, upon which the bailiff (serjeant) of the manor has remitted the money to the Prior.

22 Nov. 1328.

265.—De arreragiis de Borle.

L. 163 *a*.

Suo prædilecto, suus H(enricus) seipsum totaliter et salutem. Quia Vicecomes Essexiæ graviter nos distrinxit pro lxvij. libris vij. solidis iij. denariis, quos exigit a nobis pro manerio nostro de Borle, de quibus allocatæ sunt nobis xxij. libras xj. solidos, ut patet per breve Vicecomiti Essexiæ dudum directum, cujus copiam vobis transmittimus præsentibus involutam, et totum residuum debiti pendet, coram vobis ad Scaccarium, in discussione inter executores testamenti Dominæ Margaretæ quondam Reginæ Angliæ et nos, pro eo quod quando dicta Regina, per breve Domini The Prior, writing to a Baron of the Exchequer, asks him to recover a sum unjustly levied for a subsidy by the Sheriff of Essex upon the

manor of Borley, upon which the Convent had a charge of 30*l.* a year. Deductions are also claimed by reason of a disputed account with the Crown.

Regis, cepit in manu sua manerium de Westclyve, ad vitam suam tenendum, dicta Domina Regina cepit et detinuit omnia blada nostra et omnimoda alia bona mobilia quæ tunc habuimus apud Westclyve, ad valentiam lvij. librarum vij. solidorum, sicut patet per inquisitionem inde captam, per speciale præceptum Domini Regis et ad Scaccarium retornatam, anno xv^mo regni Regis Edwardi patris Domini Regis nunc. Quocirca amicitiam vestram solita fiducia requirimus et rogamus, quatinus velitis per aliquam viam ordinare pro nobis remedium super præmissis; beneplacitum vestrum in hiis et aliis nobis per bajulum præsentium rescribentes. Valete. Datum Cantuariæ xxij^do die Novembris, anno Dni. M°CCC^mo XXVIIJ°.

24 Nov. 1328.

L. 163 *a*.

266.—Consultatio facta amico super variis articulis.

Answer to the new Archbishop who has consulted the Prior on many matters, to all of which he receives but vague answers. 1. As to a profession to be demanded from the Bishop of Hereford translated to Worcester. 2. Has the King a right to demand a benefice for one of

Salutem. Super hiis quæ, per Thomam de E. domicellum vestrum, per credentiam vivæ vocis nuper michi mandastis, ea quæ sentio vobis scribo. Quo ad professionem Wygorniensis Episcopi vobis faciendam, sufficit illa professio quam fecit solempniter in ecclesia vestra Cantuariensi, et postea personaliter, prædecessori vestro, quando fuit Episcopus Herefordensis, quæ ipsum arctat semper et ad semper quamdiu fuerit suffraganeus Ecclesiæ Cantuariensis. Item: quo ad unum clericum Domini Regis in novitate vestra de jure ad beneficium ecclesiasticum promovendum; si ita sit, magis de facto quam de jure hactenus est optentum. Nec vos latet qualiter plures clerici Dominorum Regum Angliæ qui pro tempore fuerunt, ad instantiam ipsorum regum et regalium ad regimen pontificalis officii hactenus sunt assumpti, qui, grata vicissitudine non de jure, alios clericos ipsorum Regum ad ecclesiastica beneficia promoverunt; ita quod ista gratitudo, quasi extorta, in usum processit, et jam

consuetudinem, ut dicitur, introduxit. Quo ad occursum Domino Regi apud Eltham vel in locis vicinis, vel eidem ista vice exhennium mittendum, non oportet vos multum sollicitare; nisi Dominus Rex vestram Cantuariensem Ecclesiam personaliter visitaret. De adventu meo ad instans concilium vestrum provinciale, fiet quod commode fieri poterit, juxta mei corporis qualitatem. Adhuc pater, omnes abbates et priores et aliæ personæ ecclesiasticæ, tam exempti quam non exempti, provinciæ Cantuariensis, exceptis clericis Domini Regis in suis obsequiis residentibus et in specialibus capellis suis exemptis degentibus, vocari debent ad instans provinciale concilium, ut videtur, et præcipue quia sanctissimi patris et domini nostri Domini Johannis divina providentia Papæ xxij^di^ crebris monitis excitati decrevistis instans concilium celebrare. Registrum vero vestrum, pro quo michi scripsistis, feci bajulo præsentium liberari. Adhuc pater, nota vestra, quam ordinastis pro concilio convocando, sufficit, ut michi videtur, quam vobis remitto, cum præposteratione unius verbi interlinearis inter quintam et sextam lineam. Fratrem Nicholaum de Ivyngho ad vos remittere non possum, quia nondum illum recepi. Valeat et vigeat Dominus meus pater et pastor. Scriptum Cantuariæ, xxiiij^to^ die Novembris, anno Dni. M^o^CCC^mo^XXVIIJ^vo^.

his clerks from every new Archbishop? 3. Is it necessary for the Archbishop to meet the King at Eltham and to give him a present? 4. What classes of ecclesiastics must be cited to a provincial council. 5. The form of summons for this Council, devised by the Archbishop and submitted to the Prior, is a good form if one transposition be made.

267.—Certificatio Concilii provincialis. (Dec. 1328.)

L. 165 *a*.

Venerabili in Christo patri Domino Simoni Dei gratia Cantuariensi Archiepiscopo, etc. devoti filii Henricus Prior et Capitulum Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, salutem cum omni obedientia, reverentia, et honore debitis tanto patri. Vestræ paternitatis litteras nuper recepimus habentes tenorem subscriptum: "Simon permissione," etc.; cui quidem mandato vestro in omnibus parebimus reverenter. Datum in Capitulo nostro, etc.

The Archbishop, about to celebrate a Provincial Council, has summoned the Prior, who in the usual form promises obedience.

(Dec. 1328.)

268.—Procuratorium pro dicto concilio.

L. 165 *a*.

The Chapter appoint proctors to represent them in the Provincial Council.

Universis pateat per præsentes quod nos Henricus Prior et Capitulum, etc. facimus et constituimus dilectos, etc. A. et B. procuratores nostros, conjunctim et divisim, ad comparendum coram venerabili patre Domino Simone Dei gratia Cantuariensi Archiepiscopo, etc., die Veneris proximo post festum Conversionis Sci. Pauli proxime nunc futurum, in ecclesia Cathedrali Sci. Pauli Londoniis, super hiis quæ in Concilio provinciali ibidem celebrando reformanda fuerint, cum dicto patre et prælatis ac clero provinciæ Cantuariensis, tractaturos; et super tractandis, ad honorem Dei et Ecclesiæ, nostrum consilium impensuros, pariter et consensum. Ratum habituri id quod per dictos procuratores nostros, vel alterum ipsorum, actum fuerit in præmissis. Dat. in Capitulo nostro, etc.

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5 Feb. 1329.

270.—De arreragiis de Borle et officio J. de Breydeston.

L. 166 *a*.

The Chapter, through the neglect or worse of their steward, have suffered an encroachment upon their liberties by the King's Justices; the Prior

Saluz. Endroit de ceo qe vous nous mandastes nadgeres par voz lettres, qe devant Sire Bartholomew de Burghassh et ses compaignons, en lan passe, vij. ou viij. de noz tenants de Chertham furent comaundez a la prison, pur certein trespas qe il avoient fait; sur quey vous, et Thomas de Medmenham, et Robert de Derteford, priastes a dunkes a Johan de Breydeston qe il chalengast les prisones avant qe il fuissent menez al chastel, la quele chose il faire ne voleyt; mes, par sa neglicence et defaute de challenge, furent

269.—De provisione Johannis de Cirencestria pauperis clerici.

3 Feb. 1329.

L. 165 *b*.

Salutem illam quam peperit quæ sola post partum virgo permansit. In negotio provisionis Johannis de Cirencestria, pauperis clerici, vertitur nobis et Ecclesiæ nostræ præjudicium et grævamen; præsertim ex eo quod, licet procurator noster, coram vobis in judicio, vicibus repetitis, instanter petierit copiam litterarum apostolicarum, si quæ tales sint, de quibus in commissione vestra mentio videtur haberi, nullam tamen inde copiam hactenus habere potuit, nec etiam earundem inspectionem, et ambigua et obscura sunt accessoria quorum principale nescitur. Modicam vero nobis cederet utilitatem, advocatos et procuratores nostros, sub injuncto, magnis laboribus et sumptibus onerosis, ad loca extra diœcesim Cantuariensem usque ad tertiam diœcesim destinare; nec ad hoc, ut credimus, in tam brevis temporis spatio et loci distantia, jura canonica nos coarctant. Valeat et vigeat vestra paternitas ad regimen gregis Dei vobis commissi. Data Cantuariæ, iij^to^ die Februarii, anno Dni. M°CCC^mo^XXVIIJ°.

The Chapter farther protest against the Archbishop's proceedings in the execution of the Papal letters for which he has appointed the Abbot of Westminster to be his special Commissary.

270.

Greeting. As to what you lately told us in your letters, namely, that during the last year seven or eight of our tenants were before Sir Bartholomew de Burghassh and his fellows, and were committed to prison for a certain trespass done by them; in consequence of which you, and Thomas de Medmenham, and Robert de Derteford then requested John de Breydeston, that he would demand the prisoners before that they were carried to the castle, which thing he declined to do; but through his neglect to make a claim, they were taken to

therefore writes to his counsel in London giving him instructions to join the counsel of the Archbishop in an action against the negligent steward. The same steward has possession of a list of tenants whose amerciaments have been awarded in the Exchequer to the Chapter as lords of certain manors in Essex, and these evidences are valuable. The King claims arrears from the surplus rent of Borley, but the Prior sets up a counter claim for 100*l.* secured by a bond given by the King's father.

il menez al chastel par le Visconte, et lad payerent il lur fee, enostant nous de nostre fee et del droit de nostre Esglise. Metez a reson le dit Johan de Breydeston pur quei il ne voleyt noz dites tenants chalenger, pur sa(u)ver la fraunchise Lerchevesqe et nostre; et, solum la cause qe le dit Johan vous assigne, prenez conseil de nos amis en Loundres qe faut afaire outre contre le dit Johan. Et endroit de ceo qe vous nous mandastes, qe sur nostre acceptation de la chartre Wauter nadgeres Ercevesqe fait al dit Johan, est certein qe nostre dreit et nostre fraunchise, ausi ben celes qe sunt comprys en composicioun come altres, nous demoergent. Sur quey vous nous mandastes, qe nous maundissoms a vous et a Thomas de Medmenham, si nous voloms qe vous seues devers le dit Johan sur son acounte de cel trespas; sachez qe il vaut mieux de attendre de cele sute, desques atant qe nostre Seint Pere Lercevesqe eyt commence sa sute, qe il et son conseil ont ordine de faire contre le dit Johan pur le office qe il cleyme en le service Lercevesqe a terme de sa vie, et qe nous joynoms a luy en sa sute pur tiel trespas et altres defautes qe seront trovez en le dit Johan. Et voillez saver qe, il nous semble qe quant Lercevesqe avoit deliverance de sa temporalte et bref le Roy as gardiens, bon eust este, et uncore serroit, qe Lercevesqe eust envoye en chancellerye la chartre le Roy Henry fitz Johan, qe il ad de retorn avoir de tous maners brefs et precepts de feez et de tenements qe touchent Lesglise de Canterbirs; et eust purchace bref a chescun Visconte, laa ou Lercevesqe et Lesglise ad feez, tenants, et tenements, qe les ditz Viscontes, et chescun de eaux, feissent liverer as Seneschals de la fraunchise Lercevesqe Simon, les queaux Lercevesqe vodra assigner par ses lettres patentes, tous les brefs et les precepts nostre Seignur le Roy qe touchent Lercevesqe et les feez et les tenants del Esglise de Canterbirs, solum la

the castle by the Sheriff, and there have paid their fees, thus depriving us of our fee, which is the right of our church. Examine the said John de Breydeston as to why he did not choose to claim our said tenants, in order to preserve our franchise and that of the Archbishop; and according to the pretence which the said John shall allege, take counsel of our friends in London concerning what farther steps it will be proper to take against the said John. And as to what you said, namely, that in consequence of our ratification of the charter of Walter the late Archbishop given to the said John it is certain that our right and franchise, both those secured by composition and others, perish; whereupon you sent word to us that we should instruct you and Thomas de Medmenham if we wished you to sue the said John on account of this trespass; know then, that it will be better to postpone this suit until after our Holy Father the Archbishop shall have begun his suit, which he and his counsel have decided to undertake against the said John concerning the office which he claims to hold for the term of his life in the service of the Archbishop, and then, that we join him in his suit for this trespass, and for any other defaults which may be detected in the said John. And please to notice, it seems to us that when the Archbishop received his temporalities, and the King's writ directed to the *Custodes*, it would have been a good thing, and still would be so, if the Archbishop had sent to the Chancery the charter of King Henry, the son of John, granting to him the return of all kinds of writs and precepts in fees and tenements in which the Church of Canterbury has an interest, and if he had procured a writ, addressed to each Sheriff of the places where the Archbishop and the Church have fees, tenants, and tenements, directing the said Sheriffs to deliver to the Seneschals of the franchise of Archbishop Simon (whom the Archbishop shall appoint by his letters patent) all those writs and precepts of our Lord the

forme de la dite chartre nostre seignur le Roy; pur ceo qe Lercevesqe en sa seysine demeine porra pluis legerment respoundre al dit Johan de Breydenston a sa demande, qe de empleder le dit Johan de chose qe il cleyme. Et endroit de ceo qe vous nous mandastes, qe vous averez mester de aver lez nouns de noz tenants de Essex (lez queux serront trovez entre les rememraunces qe demorerent devers Dan Water de Norwycz) pur noz amercementz chalenger; sachez qe nous ne trovoms pas, en les remembraunces le dit Water, les nouns de noz tenants qi sunt amerciez devant Justices, mes nous trovoms bien qe le dit Johan de Breydeston ad touz les nouns de noz ditz tenants qi sunt issi amerciez en le conte de Essex, pur chalenger les amercimenz a nostre oeps sur son acunte. Endroit de la dette qe nostre Seignur le Roy nous demande, pur les arrerages de Borle; procurez vers noz amis, qe la dette soit trie et puree al Eschekere desques a clere summe; et pur ceo qe le Roi Edward, piere nostre Seignur le Roi qi ore est, deit a nous C. livres per ses lettres patentes, les queux nous vous enveyoms par le portour de cestes, de alower a nous les C. livres en les dettes qe nous devoms al Roi, regardez noz amis et procurez qe la clere dette de Borle et de Westclyve, qe nous devoms a Roi, puisse estre alowe en les C. livres qe le Roi deit a nous. Et avant qe vous lessez, si mieulx ne poet estre, rendez al Tresorer cele obligacion le Roi de C. livres, issi qe nous eyoms bone allowaunce al Escheker de totes maneres dettes qi touchent le manoir de Borle en Essex et de Westclyve en le conte de Kent. Donez a Canterbirs le quint jour de Feverer

King which affect the Archbishop, and the fees, and the tenants of the Church of Canterbury, in accordance with the terms of the said charter of our Lord the King; because the Archbishop in defending his own right, will be able to answer the said John de Breydenston better than in sueing the said John for something which he himself claims. And concerning what you sent word to us, namely, that you required to have the names of those of our Essex tenants (which will be found among the memoranda of Dom. Walter de Norwich) in order to found a claim for our amerciaments; take notice, that in the memoranda of the said Walter, we do not find the names of those of our tenants who are amerced before the Justices: but we do find that the said John de Breydeston has all the names of our said tenants who are thus amerced in the county of Essex, in order that he may claim the amerciaments for our use in his account. As to the debt which our Lord the King claims from us for the arrears of the Borley payment: make interest among our friends, that the debt may be tested and simplified in the Exchequer, so as to reduce it to a nett total; and, because King Edward, the father our Lord the King who now is, owed to us a hundred pounds secured by his letters patent, which letters we send you by the bearer of these presents, that this hundred pounds may be allowed to us in (diminution of) the debts which we owe to the King, make interest with our friends, and procure that the clear debt of Borley and of Westcliff, which we owe to the King, may be allowed for in the hundred pounds which the King owes to us. And before you give over, if you cannot do better, surrender this bond of the King's for a hundred pounds to the Treasurer, provided that we have a clear allowance in the Exchequer of all manner of debts which concern the manor of Borley in Essex and of Westcliff in the county of Kent. Given at Canterbury the fifth day of February.

18 Feb. 1329.

L. 162 *b*.

271.—COMMISSIO AD SUPERVIDENDUM MANERIA ET PETENDUM, LEVANDUM, ET RECIPIENDUM DEBITA DIVERSORUM.

The commission given to a steward who had jurisdiction over a large group of manors.

Universis pateat per præsentes quod nos Henricus, &c., facimus et constituimus dilectum nobis in Christo Hugonem atte Breche, clericum, procuratorem nostrum, et attornatum, ac nuntium specialem, ad supervidendum manerium nostrum de Clyve et Coulyngg cum omnibus pertinentiis suis, et omnia maneria et alia bona nostra, mobilia et immobilia, cum pertinentiis suis in comitatibus Essex, Suffolk, et Norfolk; dantes eidem potestatem nomine nostro petendi, levandi, et recipiendi omnia debita quæ nobis, a quibuscunque et ex quacunque causa, debentur in locis et comitatibus

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24 Feb. 1329.

L. 166 *b*.

272.—LITTERA MISSA DOMINO J. LANGE PRO VINIS NOSTRIS FRANCIÆ DE ANNO DNI. M°CCC^mo°XXVIJ°.

The Prior's Parisian agent has given him an order for 30*l*. upon Master Tybalt, the Queen's physician, but the latter denies that he has any money in his hands belonging to the agent. The Prior requests him therefore to remit the amount at

A soun trescher ami, etc., saluz. Nous vous mercioms moult de voz lettres qe vous nous envoyastes nadgeres, et de voz lettres qe vous envoyastes a Mestre Thebaud, phisicien Ma Dame la Royne Isabel, pur payer a nous xxx. livres desterlings, de voz deners de vostre rente de Londres. Et voillez saver, trescher ami, qe nous avoms fait bailler voz lettres al dit Mestre Thebaud, qe il nous face payer xxx. livres desterlings solum ceo qe vous ly mandastes par voz lettres; et il nous ad respondu apertement, qe il ne ad nul dener de vous, ne nul dener ne payera a nous. Et pur ceo, nous vous prioms, come nostre fiable amy, qe vous plese purver et ordiner aucune autre convenable voye comment nous puissoms aver les xxx. livres de noz vins de France del an de grace M^lCCCXXVIJ., par les merchanz de la compaignie de Barde a Paris, ou par autre voye profitable pur nous,

prædictis; et pro eisdem rationabiliter distrigendi; nec non faciendi debitoribus singulis debitas et rationabiles allocationes et acquietantias de solutione; ac etiam reparandi competenter, sumptibus nostris, omnes defectus quos inveniet in locis et maneriis nostris prædictis; insuper inquirendi, per sacramentum legalium hominum, de omnimodis bonis nostris, mobilibus et immobilibus, per quoscunque alienatis, et de nominibus ipsorum alienatorum et ad quorum manus hujusmodi bona devenerunt, a festo Sci. Michaelis anno primo regni Regis Edwardi tertii post conquestum usque ad datam præsentium. In cujus rei testimonium has litteras nostras, etc., fieri fecimus patentes, duraturas usque ad festum Paschæ proxime venturum. Dat. Cantuar. xviij^{vo} die Februarii anno tertio regni Regis Edwardi supradicti.

272.

To his very dear friend, &c. greeting. We thank you heartily for your letters which you lately sent us, and for your letters which you sent to Master Thebaud, the physician to my Lady the Queen Isabella, that he should pay us thirty pounds sterling out of the money of your London rents. And please to notice, very dear friend, that we have caused your letters to be handed to the said Master Thebaud, that he might cause to be paid to us thirty pounds sterling according to that which you sent us in your letters, but he has answered plainly that he neither has any money of yours nor will he pay any to us. And therefore we pray you, as our trusty friend, that you will please to provide and arrange some other convenient way by which we may be able to obtain the thirty pounds for our French wines of the year of grace 1327, either through the banking company of the Bardi of Paris, or by some other

once through the Bardi, who, as bankers, have establishments both in Paris and London.

sicome nous fioms especialement de vous. Et sur ceste chose nous voillez remander par voz lettres ceo qe il vous plerra faire, ausitost come vous purrez, par aucun messager de la dite compaignie de Barde, ou par autre qi plustost vendera en Engleterre. A Dieu qi vous gard et quant qe a vous apent. Donez a Canterbirs le xxiiij^me^ jour de Feverer, lan de grace M^l^CCCXXVIIJ^m^.

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12 Mar. 1329.

L. 167 *a*.

273.—Certificatorium visitationis Domini Simonis Archiepiscopi.

The Archbishop having sent the usual citation to the Chapter for a visitation is informed that the monks have all been summoned, their several names being transmitted to him in a separate schedule.

Venerabili in Christo patri Domino Simoni, Dei gratia Cantuariensi Archiepiscopo, totius Angliæ Primati, devoti filii Henricus Prior et Capitulum Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, salutem, cum omni obedientia, reverentia, et honore. Litteras paternitatis vestræ primo die mensis Martii recepimus, tenorem qui sequitur continentes: "Simon permissione," etc. Quod quidem mandatum vestrum reverenter sumus in omnibus executi. Citatorum vero nomina in cedula huic certificatorio annexa plenarie continentur. Datum in Capitulo nostrô, xij. die Martii, anno Domini supradicto.

18 April 1329.

L. 167 *a*.

274.—Littera missa Domino Simoni Archiepiscopo, sub secreto silentio, pro quibusdam tangentibus visitationem suam.

In the visitation mentioned in the preceding letter the Archbishop has enjoined purgation to some monks against

Suo patri. Reverende pater et domine, memoriter me recolo nuper, sub secreto silentio, vobis scripsisse, qualiter duo fratres, filii vestri, quibus purgationes canonicas, sua manu decima, indixistis, super variis articulis ipsos contingentibus, in visitatione vestra compertis, et ad recipiendum hujusmodi purgationes suas michi vices vestras specialiter commisistis,

way which will be profitable to us, as our trust is especially in you. And on this matter be pleased to send back word what you will please to do as soon as you can, by some messenger of the said company of the Bardi, or by some other, whichever shall soonest come to England. God be with you, and keep you and all belonging to you. Given at Canterbury the 24th day of February in the year of grace 1328.

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in hujusmodi purgationibus suis totaliter defecerunt. Quocirca paternitatem vestram, tota devotione qua possum, deprecor et requiro, quatinus ad informationem meam pro quibusdam dubiis et obscuris in dicta littera mea, ut dicitur, contentis, hujusmodi litteram meam vobis directam vel saltem copiam ejusdem michi transmittere velitis, per præsentium portitorem. Valeat et prospere vigeat paternitas vestra ad regimen Ecclesiæ sanctæ Christi. Datum Cantuariæ, xviij° die Aprilis, anno Dni. M°CCCXXIX°.

whom charges were brought, and as they have failed to clear themselves the Prior informs the Archbishop. He also asks for a copy of his confidential letter.

274.—De eodem quo supra.

April 1329.

Suo patri, ardua et præcipua negocia vobis scribere pertimesco; verumptamen cum talia contigerint, vobis per nuncium credulum et credenciæ litteram magis expedit significare quam scriptura expressa, pro eo quod littera mea, quam vobis nuper, sub secreto silentio, destinavi, post modicum temporis intervallum, in ecclesia parochiali de Estreia fuit inventa, totaliter derelicta et singulis transeuntibus inspicienda. Cui tamen hujusmodi litteram meam tradidistis vel misistis ignoro; et ideo pro copia, saltem, ejusdem litteræ meæ habenda, quam proculdubio non habui, paternitatem vestram nuper rogavi suppliciter exorando, et adhuc deprecor et exoro, quod hujusmodi copiam velitis remittere michi vestro; quia (memoriter recolo quod)[1] in

L. 167 *a*.

The Prior refrains from writing his secret information to the of Archbishop, and prefers to trust it to a messenger for delivery *viva voce*. He is induced to be thus cautious because the

[1] The phrase in brackets is cancelled in the MS.

original private letter which he sent at a previous date, and of which he has asked for a copy, has been picked up in Eastry Church.

eadem littera mea continentur aliqua secreta, quæ unum fratrem et monachum Ecclesiæ vestræ Cantuariensis specialitur contingunt, qui in parochia dictæ ecclesiæ de Estreia oriundus existit. Valeat, &c.

275.—De ordinibus non celebrandis in ecclesia Cantuariensi nisi præmunito Conventu.

24 April 1329.

L. 167 *b*.

The new Archbishop having proposed to allow holy orders to be celebrated in the infirmary of the monastery, by some surrogate Bishop, is informed by the Prior that this proceeding would be an innovation, and that it is usual to give formal notice to the Chapter before holy orders are celebrated in the church.

Suo patri. Reverende pater, placeat vobis dicere Cancellario et aliis de consilio vestro ad regimen negotiorum vestrorum spiritualium deputatis, quod laudabiles consuetudines sanctorum patrum, prædecessorum vestrorum, et Ecclesiæ vestræ Cantuariensis, abolim continuatas et hactenus approbatas, observent. Insolitum enim est et inauditum, quod aliquis episcopus in ecclesia vestra Cantuariensi, sede plena, crisma confecerit, vel ordines celebraverit, nisi Priori et Capitulo ejusdem Ecclesiæ prius constaret, per litteras Domini Archiepiscopi eisdem directas, quod, de ipsius patris beneplacito et licentia speciali, talis episcopus hujusmodi officia pontificalia in ecclesia vestra Cantuariensi exercere deberet. Nec etiam solent hactenus in ecclesia vestra Cantuariensi, sede plena, a quocunque ordines celebrari, nisi Prior et Capitulum prius fuissent præmuniti, per letteras Domini Archiepiscopi eisdem directas, de hujusmodi ordinibus in dicta ecclesia celebrandis, propter inopinatos eventus qui non potuerunt prævideri. Nec decet, sanctissime pater, ordines celebrari in infirmitorio religiosorum, ne quies infirmorum per quorumcunque strepitum purturbetur, et maxime quando alia loca in ecclesia fuerint ad hæc magis ydonea et honesta. Et licet attemptare nova et insolita minus caute quibusdam placeat hiis diebus, tamen plerumque multa pariunt incommoda subitæ novitates, et impetuosa manus facit rectam lineam tortuosam. Et credo, omni dubio submoto, quod præmissa de arbitrio vestro minime processerunt; et ideo

non tædeat vos quod talia vobis scribo, quia zelus fervens quem habeo pro honore vestro me ad hæc excitat et inducit. Valeat et prospere vigeat Dominus meus, pater et pastor. Datum Cantuariæ, viij. Kalendas Maii, anno Dni. M°CCC^mo°XIX^no°.

276.—De professione Episcoporum in Curia Romana consecratorum. 7 May 1329.

L. 167 *b*.

The Prior writes to the new Archbishop that Bishops consecrated in the Curia are accustomed as soon as possible after their consecration, to make personal profession of canonical obedience to the Archbishop of Canterbury; the case of Bishop Grandison of Exeter being an example.

Suo patri devotus filius, id quod potest obedientiæ, reverentiæ, et honoris. Memoriter recolo vos jam tertio, per litteras vestras, michi mandasse, et me vobis seriosius scripsisse quod michi videbatur super eisdem negotiis, pro quibus michi per bajulum præsentium nunc scripsistis. Nec expedit tales litteras vobis missas postponere et relinquere inter spreta. Insolitum quidem est et inauditum, quod aliquis episcopus suffraganeus provinciæ Cantuariensis, in Curia Romana vel alibi ubicunque, ab alio quam ab Archiespiscopo Cantuariensi consecratus, qui quamcito commode posset post consecrationem suam ad Archiepiscopum Cantuariensem, qui pro tempore fuerit, non accederet, et professionem sibi faceret personalem, juxta formam in cedula contentam præsentibus involuta, mutatis nominibus personarum, episcoporum, et ecclesiarum cathedralium. Et si sedes Cantuariensis vacaret, tales episcopi fecerunt professionem Capitulo et futuro Archiepiscopo, juxta formam in cedula prædicta contentam. Materiam vero obedientiarum aliam nescio nisi personam et formam, nec juri canonico præmissa obsistunt. Scientes quod Dominus J. episcopus Exoniensis, qui nunc est, fecit professionem suam in ecclesia vestra Cantuariensi, sede ultimo vacante, de verbo ad verbum, in dicta cedula contentam. Adhuc[1] pater, ardua et præcipua

[1] *Adhuc pater, &c.* Here is repeated the letter beginning with these words, which will be found on p. 287.

He requests that his letter may be treated as confidential and not be exposed to the eyes of the curious.

negotia vobis scribere pertimesco, etc. Et scire velitis quod, si aliquis episcopus provinciæ Cantuariensis semel uni Archiepiscopo Cantuariensi et successoribus suis in eadem ecclesia substituendis professionem et obedientiam canonicam fecerit personalem, non solebat hactenus successoribus suis professionem vel obedientiam facere personalem, nec videtur quod de jure vel

15 May 1329.

L. 169 *b*.

277.—Littera excusationis missa Domino Regi pro cc. libris sibi mutuandis.

The Prior, pleading that he has no goods of his own (his rule binding him to a community of property with the monks of his Convent), excuses himself from lending the King two hundred pounds.

A son trescher Sire Edward par la grace de Dieu Roi Dengleterre, etc., son chapelein Henri Priour del Esglise de Canterbire saluz, et saunte de cors et dalme. Trescher Seignur, endroit de ceo qe vous me mandastes nadgere, par voz lettres, de vous prester cc. livres, et envoyer les deners a voz Tresorer et Chamberleins de vostre Escheker; veullez saver, trescher Seignur, qe jeo ne ay terres, ne rentes, ne altres biens, ne chateaux, de temporalte ne de espiritualte, partenantz a moy en severalte; et pur ceo, trescher Seignur, vous plese aver moy escuse en ceste chose, pur mon non poer. A Dieu qi vous gard, et vous donit grace en terre, et la joye perdurable. Donez a Canterbire, le xv^m^ jour de Maij, lan de grace M^l^CCCXXIX.

(May 1329.)

L. 169 *b*.

278.—Petitio Prioris de generali attornato faciendo, et quod ipse attornatus possit facere alium attornatum.

The Prior asks the royal licence, allowing him to appoint (in consideration of his great

Ceo prie a nostre Seignur le Roi son chapelein Henri Priour del Esglise de Canterbire: pur ceo qe le dit Priour est auncien home et feble, qe il plese a nostre Seignur le Roi, de sa grace especiale, granter al dit Priour qe il puisse faire un general attorne en

consuetudine ad hoc teneatur. Istam litteram meam præcipiatis, si placet, cautius solito custodiri, ne ipsam aspiciat sinister oculus alienus. Prospere valeat et vigeat Dominus meus, pater et pastor, et jugiter recordetur Apostoli verba dicentis : *Nichil michi conscius sum, set non in hoc justificatus sum.* Datum Cantuariæ, vij. die Maii, anno Dni. M°CCC^mo^XXIX°.

277.

To his very dear lord Edward by the grace of God King of England, &c., his chaplain, Henry Prior of the Church of Canterbury, greeting, and health of body and soul. Very dear Lord, as to what you communicated to me lately by your letters, namely, that I should lend you two hundred pounds, and send the money to the Treasurer and Chamberlains of your Exchequer ; be pleased to know, very dear Lord, that I have neither lands nor rents nor other goods or chattels, either temporal or spiritual, belonging to me in severalty ; and therefore, very dear Lord, may it please you to hold me excused in this matter in consideration of my inability. God be with you and keep you, and give you grace on earth and joy eternal.

278.

Thus prays to our Lord the King his chaplain Henry Prior of the Church of Canterbury ; inasmuch as the said Prior is an old and feeble man, that it may please our Lord the King, by his especial grace, to grant to the said Prior, that he may have power to appoint

age) a general attorney.

touz pleytz, et qe celi attorne puisse faire un altre attorne quant mester serra.

(May 1329.)

L. 169 *b*.

279.—Petitio Prioris de brevi habendo de custodia prioratus vacante prioratu.

The Prior has petitioned the King for a writ declaring that the temporals of the Priory do not belong to the Crown during vacancies of the priorate. By this writ the King directs the officers of

Edwardus, etc. Thesaurariis et Baronibus suis de Scaccario, salutem. Ex parte Prioris et Conventus Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis nobis est ostensum, quod licet custodia temporalium prioratus prædicti, vacante prioratu, ad progenitores nostros nunquam hactenus pertinere consuevit; tamen Magister Henricus de Bray, quondam Escaetor Regis Edwardi avi nostri citra Trentam, in ultima vacatione prioratus prædicti multa dampna fecit eisdem Priori et Conventui, durante vacatione prædicta; et ideo supplicaverunt nobis quod super hoc ipsis congruum remedium faceremus. Volentes igitur super præmissis plenius certiorari: vobis mandamus quod, scrutatis rotulis de Scaccario nostro prædicto, certificetis Cancellarium nostrum, sub sigillo Scaccarii nostri, si pro-

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15 Aug. 1329.

L. 170 *a*.

281.—Littera directa Domino R(ogerio) Comiti de Marchia pro negotiis Domini J. Lange.

Two messengers having arrived in England sent by the French agent of the Convent to transact business at the English

A noble Seignur et son trescher ami Monsire Roger de Mortimer, Counte de la Marche, Henri Priour del Esglise de Canterbire saluz, et la joye perdurable. Trescher seignur, pur ceo qe Monsire Johan de Lange, Chivailler Ma Dame la Royne Isabel, ad grant busoignes afaire devers Ma dite Dame et devers nostre Seignur le Roi son fitz, et le dit Sire Johan est nostre procuratour en France de receyver les vins Seint Thomas qe nous avoms en France, nous vous prioms

a general attorney in all pleas; and that this attorney may have power to appoint a substitute attorney whenever it may be necessary.

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genitores nostri custodiam temporalium dicti prioratus, vacante prioratu, habere consueverunt, nec ne, temporibus retroactis. Teste, etc.

the Exchequer to enquire into the facts.

280.—Item: Breve de eodem. (May 1329.)

Edwardus, etc. Omnibus Escaetoribus, Vicecomitibus, Ballivis, et aliis ministris suis, salutem. Quia pro certo intelleximus quod custodia prioratus Sanctæ Trinitatis Cantuariæ, in ejusdem vacationibus, ad nos vel progenitores nostros, Reges Angliæ, pertinere non consuevit, vobis mandamus, quod vos vel aliquis vestrum de prioratu prædicto, ratione vacationis ejusdem, de cetero non intromittatis. Et si aliquos exitus de custodia prioratus prædicti cepistis ad opus nostrum, eisdem Priori et Conventui sine dilatione restituatis. Teste, &c. L. 169 *b*.

The King requires his Escheators to abstain from seizing the temporal goods of the Convent in case of a vacancy of the priorate.

281.

To the noble Lord and his most dear friend Sir Roger de Mortimer, Earl of March, Henry Prior of the Church of Canterbury, greeting, and eternal joy. Very dear Lord, whereas Master John de Lange, knight of the Household of our Lady the Queen Isabella, has important business to transact with our said Lady, and with our Lord the King her son, and whereas the said Sir John is our proctor in France for receiving the Wines of Saint Thomas, which we possess in France, we heartily pray

Court, the Prior recommends them to the patronage of Roger Mortimer.

cherement qe vous plese eider a Oger et a Menton, portours de ceste lettre, les messagers le dit Sire Johan, qe il soyent convenablement esployez de meisme les busoignes sicome il moustrent a vous. Et, trescher Seignur, voillez savoir qe cest busoignes le dit Sire Johan, sil soyent bien esployes serront a grant profist de nous et de nostre Esglise, pur noz arrerages des ditz vins Seint Thomas qe le dit Sire Johan ad receu de ij. anz passez. A Dieu qi vous gard et quant qe a vous apent. Donez a Canterbire, le jour del Assumpcion Nostre Dame, lan de grace M[l]CCCXXIX.

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17 Sept. 1329.

L. 170 *b*.

282.—Littera de noviciis profitendis et aliis recipiendis.

The Prior asks licence from the Archbishop to receive the final vows of some novices whose year of probation has expired.

Suo patri, devotus filius id quod potest obedientiæ, reverentiæ, et honoris. Quia sex novicii, qui in habitu monachali laudabiliter conversati sunt in Ecclesia vestra Cantuariensi, petunt instanter admitti ad professionem faciendam. Placeat paternitati vestræ committere michi vices vestras ad recipiendum professiones suas, prout moris est, si vos ad Ecclesiam vestram, ad præmissa facienda, personaliter accedere non poteritis ista vice. Adhuc, pater, juxta consilium vestrum recepi nuper ad habitum monachalem viij. idoneas personas, et in brevi intendo recipere usque ad numerum duodenum, et ipsos, quamcito commode fieri poterit, induere habitu regulari, prout ordinastis in fine visitationis vestræ; ne forte, quod absit, ipsorum sanctum propositum pervertat callidus hostis antiquus [1][ne forte mutent voluntatem suam callida suggestione hostis antiqui]. Beneplacitum vestrum in hiis et aliis [re-

[1] The words in brackets were first written but afterwards cancelled and the sentences recast.

you that you will assist Ogier and Menton, the bearers of this letter and messengers of the said Sir John, that they may be happily sped in the said affairs as they explain them to you. And, very dear Lord, be pleased to hear that these affairs of the said Sir John, if they be successfully executed, will be to the great profit of us and our Church, as connected with the arrears of the said Wines of Saint Thomas, which the aforesaid Sir John has received for the two years last past. God be with you and keep you and whatever belongs to you. Given at Canterbury on the day of the Assumption of Our Lady, in the year of grace 1329.

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nuntiare dignemini] per bajulum præsentium significare dignemini michi vestro. Datum apud Westwell xvij. die Septembris anno, etc.

283.—Littera missa Domino Archiepiscopo de negotio Dovoriæ.

22 Oct. 1329.

L. 170, 2 *a*

In the dispute about the advowson of St. Martin's of Dover, it is necessary to produce ancient deeds given by Popes and Kings which should be in the Archiepiscopal Archives. The new Archbishop

Suo patri devotus filius id quod potest obedientiæ, reverentiæ, et honoris. Hac die Veneris post festum Sancti Lucæ Evangelistæ Thomas de Estur', domicellus vester, litteras vestras benevolas, et unum privilegium Alexandri Papæ tertii, et cartam Regis Henrici secundi, michi exhibuit inspicienda, quæ de Ecclesia Sancti Martini Dovorie faciebant specialiter mentionem; set privilegium Innocentii Papæ ij^{di} et cartam Regis Henrici primi, quæ de Ecclesia Dovoriæ faciunt mentionem, pro quibus nuper Capitulum vobis scripsit, michi non exhibuit, quia illa non habuit, ut dicebat. Copiam vero hujusmodi privilegii Innocentii Papæ ij^{di} vobis transmitto; copiam vero cartarum Regum Henrici primi et secundi penes vos habetis; scientes pro

appears to require instruction as to the places where the records are kept, which the Prior is able to give it to him.

constanti quod privilegium originale Innocentii Papæ secundi infra istum annum præteritum fuit in archivis archiepiscopalibus vestris apud Cantuariam. Cartas vero originales Henrici Regis primi et secundi Dominus W(alterus) Archiepiscopus, prædecessor vester, suo tempore, in camera sua apud Maydestan, michi et multis fratibus de Conventu, ob hoc specialiter ibidem vocatis, exhibuit inspiciendas et copiandas. Quibus inspectis et copiatis rogavi dictum patrem quod hujusmodi cartas Regum Henrici primi et secundi in custodia sua retineret, quia jus suum et successorum suorum in Ecclesia Dovoriensi specialiter continebatur.

Appendix 28, &c.

Placeat igitur vobis præcipere quod hujusmodi privilegium Innocentii Papæ ij^{di} et carta originalis Regis Henrici primi diligentius perscrutentur, quia in istis duobus munimentis totum fundamentum juris quod habetis in dicta Ecclesia Beati Martini Dovoriæ plenius continetur. De privilegio vero Innocentii Papæ iij^{ii}, de quo nuper michi scripsistis, non est ad præsens multum curandum. Præmissa, si placeat, insideant cordi vestro, quia in hiis honor vester, et multorum mentis tranquillitas proculdubio pululabunt.

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4 Nov. 1329.

285.—Littera pro mulo.

L. 170, 2 *a*.

The Prior asks his correspondent in London (a member of the banking firm of the Bardi?) to send to his partners in

Saluz. Pur ceo qe vous nouz avez sovent mande qe vous ne poez uncor trover a Londres nul bon muyl pur nous, nous vous prioms qe vous voillez mander a voz compaignons qi sount en Flandres quant vous manderez a eux pur autres busoignes, qil purveyent a vostre[1] oeps un petit muyl bien portant, nepas grant mul et haut, mes un petit muyl bien portant, et qe il envoyent a vous un tel muyl; pur ceo qe en Flandres vignent moult des gentz de Provence et des

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[1] *nostre*?

Valeat, etc. Scripta Cantuariæ xxij^do die Octobris, anno Dni. M°CCC^mo°XXIX°.

284. — Littera pro Hospitali Sancti Jacobi de placito Magistri Hospitalis de Estbregg Cantuariæ. 1 Nov. 1329.

L. 170, 2 *a*.

Salutem. Quia quidam clericus prætendens se esse Magistrum Hospitalis Sancti Thomæ de Estbregg in Cantuaria, ob favorem ineptum quem habet coram Auditoribus Causarum Curiæ venerabilis patris nostri Domini Archiepiscopi, nos et Ecclesiam nostram, et miserabiles personas in Hospitali nostro Sancti Jacobi extra Cantuariam multipliciter nititur fatigare laboribus et expensis. Non miremini si, propter importunitatem hujusmodi Auditorum, pro defensione juris nostri et Ecclesiæ nostræ et Hospitalis nostri prædicti, ad superioris examen occasione prævia convolemus; provide considerantes, quod ex hoc forsitan fumo flammam ignis producet qui invitos ardebit. Valete, in eo qui valet et viget semper. Datum Cantuariæ die Omnium Sanctorum.

The Prior complains of the conduct of the *Auditores Causarum* of the Archbishop's Court, who, instigated by the Master of Eastbridge Hospital, oppress the poor Sisters of St. Jacob's, who are under the Prior's patronage.

285.

Greeting. Seeing that you have often sent word to us, that you have been unable up to the present time to find a satisfactory mule for us in London, we beg that you will please to send word to your partners who are in Flanders, when you are writing to them upon other matters, that they may provide for our use a little easy-going mule, not a big and tall mule, but a little easy-going one, and that they may send you a mule of this sort; because to Flanders many people come from Pro-

Flanders instructions to procure for the Prior a little easy paced mule.

autres pais, pur achater marchandises, et menent ovesqs eux bons muyls pur carier les marchandises. A Dieu qi vous donit grace en terre, et la joye perdurable. Donez a Canterbire le quart jour de Novembre, lan *ut supra.*

4 Nov. 1329. L. 170, 2 *b.*

286.—Littera directa Attornatis nostris pro diversis negotiis Londoniis expediendis.

A letter of reproof sent to the attornies of the Chapter in the King's Bench. They have been instructed to procure and send down to the Sheriff at Canterbury several writs against debtors to the Chapter, but, to the astonishment of the Sheriff and the indignation of the Prior, nothing has been done.

Saluz. Pur ceo qe nous avoms entendu, par les ministres le Visconte de Kent qi demorrent a Canterbire, qe puis la feste de Saint Michel proschein passe desqes a lendemain des Almes il unt receu nul bref le Roi par noz ministres, pur nulles busoignes qi nous tuchent; et de ceo se enmerveillent il mout, et nous auxi. Bon est, pur vostre honur et nostre profist, qe vous purchacez brefs de *fieri facias*, hors de roules Justices de Bank, de la dette qe Sir Water de Huntingfeld nous deit par sa reconisaunce faite en Bank. Et auxi bref de juggement de la dette qe Sire Warreis de Valoynes nous deit. Et auxi autres brefs de les dettes qe Thomas le Blak de Sandwyz et moult de autres dettours nous deyvent, sicome bien le savez; devers queux nous avyoms purchacez bref qe deust avoir este livere a Visconte a la feste de la Trinitie proschein passe, le quel bref unqes en la meyn le Visconte ne vint, ne en la meyn nul de ses clerks qi unt poer de receyver et retorner tel bref le Roi; mes nadgeres nostre dit bref, tout ent(i)er en cire, feust trove sanz nul execution faite, et de ceo avoms grant merveille. Et pur ceo ordinez issi avisement de cestes et de noz autres busoynes qe nous avoms afaire a la Court le Roi, qe noz amis et nous meismes puissoms ver et saver, qe noz attornes soyent ausi diligentz pur seure noz busoynes a la Court le Roi, come autres attornes sont pur les busoynes de lur seinurages. Et si riens sont esploite de noz dites busoignes avant la

vence and other parts to purchase merchandise, and bring good mules with them to carry this merchandise. God be with you and give you grace on earth and lasting joy. Given at Canterbury the 4th day of November, in the year above written.

286.

Greeting. Whereas we have learnt through the officers of the Sheriff of Kent, who dwell at Canterbury, that from the feast of St. Michael last past, to the morrow of All Souls, they have received no King's writ through our servants for any affairs which concern us; and on that account they marvel much, as also do we. It is expedient, for your honour, and our profit, that you take out writs of *fi-fa* from the rolls of the Justices of the King's Bench, for the debt which Sir Walter de Huntingfeld owes us (secured) by his recognizance made in the Court of King's Bench. And also a judgment writ for the debt that Sir Warreis de Valoynes owes us. And also other writs for the debts which Thomas le Blak of Sandwich, and many other debtors owe to us, as you well know, against whom we have taken out writs which ought to have been delivered to the Sheriff at Trinitytide last past, which writs have never come into the Sheriff's hands, nor into those of any of his clerks who have authority to receive and make return to such a King's writ; but lately our writ was found with its seal entire and no execution done, and of this we have great marvel. And therefore do you proceed so discreetly in these, and our other matters which we have to transact in the King's Court, that our friends, and we ourselves, may be able to see and know that our attornies are as diligent in conducting our business at the King's Court, as other attornies are for the business of their employers. And if anything has been dispatched of our said affairs

venue le portour de cest lettre, mandez nous, par voz lettres et par meisme le pourtour, ceo qi en est faite de meisme lez busoynes et de autres. Donez a Canterbire le quart jour de Novembre, lan de grace *ut supra*.

5 Nov. 1329.

L. 170, 2 *b*.

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287. — Littera patens Domini Simonis Archiepiscopi omnibus ministris suis pro compositione tenenda.

The Archbishop commands his bailiffs and stewards to strictly observe the terms of the compromise made between Archbishop Boniface for himself and his successors and the Chapter of Christ Church in 1253. A form submitted for the Archbishop's signature. See p. 303 and Bonif's. composition, Appendix 27.

Simon permissione divina, etc., omnibus senescallis, ballivis, et ceteris ministris nostris ad custodiam temporalium nostrorum deputatis, salutem, et gratiam Salvatoris. Paci et tranquillitati dilectorum filiorum nostrorum Prioris et Capituli Ecclesiæ nostræ Christi Cantuariensis, in quorum quiete quiescimus et turbatione turbamur, prospicere cupientes: vobis mandamus, firmiter injungentes, quod compositionem inter felicis recordationis Bonifacium quondam Archiepiscopum, prædecessorem nostrum, suosque successores, et dictos filios nostros et eorum successores dudum, pro bono mutuæ pacis, feliciter editam, inviolabiliter observetis, nichil contra ipsos filios nostros, homines, seu tenentes ipsorum, attemptantes quod eidem compositioni aliqualiter obsistat. Datum apud Mortelak quinto die Novembris, anno Dni. M°CCC^mo^XXIX^no^, consecrationis nostræ secundo.

7 Nov. 1329.

L. 170, 2 *b*.

288.—Littera directa Domino Archiepiscopo pro reconciliatione cimiterii.

The Cathedral Churchyard has been polluted by

Venerabili in Christo patri Domino Simoni Dei gratia Cantuariensi Archiepiscopo, etc. devoti filii Henricus Prior et Capitulum Ecclesiæ Christi, etc. Quia duo famuli nostri, in cimiterio ecclesiæ vestræ Cantuariensis, inter se nuper rixantes, primo ad con-

before the arrival of the bearer of this letter, send us word by your letters and by the said bearer, of what is done in these affairs and others. Given at Canterbury the 4th day of November, in the year of grace *ut supra.*

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tumeliosa verba, postea ad verbera cum effusione sanguinis notorie processerunt, paternitati vestræ humiliter supplicamus, venerabili patre Domino P. Corbaviensi Episcopo velitis committere vices vestras, et eidem licentiam concedere, occasione prædicta, ad vestram ecclesiam accedendi, ad reconciliandum cimiterium nostrum prædictum, propter inopinatos temporis eventus qui non potuerunt prævideri. Valeat et prospere vigeat vestra paternitas in Christo, per suæ matris et Beati Thomæ martyris merita gloriosa. Datum in Capitulo nostro, vij. die Novembris, anno *ut supra.*

violent bloodshed, and the Prior in consequence asks leave from the Archbishop to call in the Bishop of Corbavia to perform the ceremony of reconciliation.

289.—CONSULTATIO FACTA AD CURIAM DE TABELLIONIBUS ET ALIIS. (Nov.) 1329

Salutem quam sibi. Quia celebris memoriæ Bonifacius Papa viij^us^, ad instantiam Episcopi Dunolmensis, edidit quandam constitutionem de officio ordinarii, quæ sic incipit: "Debet superioribus:" discretionem vestram rogamus, quatinus consulere velitis sapientes et prudentes in curia Romana, per quos jura reguntur ibidem, si hujusmodi constitutio sit jus commune omnibus episcopis, vel jus speciale et locale pro Episcopo Dunolmensi; quia plures in Anglia in utroque jure periti diversimode sentiunt in hac parte. Item: Quia dominus noster Dominus Johannes Papa xxij^dus^, quando concedit alicui prælato potestatem creandi tabelliones, mandat eidem, prout scitis, certam formam juramenti quod tabelliones debent præstare,

L. 171 *a.*

An adviser of the Chapter at the Curia is asked to gather the opinions of those skilled in canon law as to the interpretation and scope of two papal constitutions issued by Boniface VIII^th^

and John XXII^d. respectively.

videlicet, in hæc verba: "Ego N. clericus, non conjugatus, nec in sacris ordinibus constitutus, juro," etc. et ideo vos rogamus, quod consulere velitis sapientes Curiæ, si hujusmodi tabelliones, auctoritate apostolica sic creati, possint postmodum matrimonium contrahere, vel ad sacros ordines promoveri, et retinere et exercere officium tabellionatus; quia plures, qui se re putant in Anglia sapientes, dicunt *quod sic*; alii vero dicunt *quod non.* Et ideo vos rogamus quod, facta consultatione super hiis duobus articulis, quid sapientes Curiæ sentiunt in hac parte nobis, sub sigillo vestro rescribere velitis, per bajulum præsentium, vel alium prout melius videritis expedire. Dominus noster Archiepiscopus sanus est et incolumis, benedictus medicus medicorum; nos vero sospitate fruimur corporali, quatenus permittunt incommoda senectutis. Valeat et vigeat vita vestra in prosperitate felici. Dat., &c.

(Nov. 1329.)

L. 171 *a*.

290.—De Auditoribus Causarum Domini Archiepiscopi et aliis.

The Prior arrogantly dictates to the Archbishop in the choice of his officers and advisers. The end of the letter shows that the Archbishop has begun to tire of the overweening tone of patronage assumed by the more experienced Prior.

Salutem. Cum cura et solicitudo vestra continua pastoralis grandissimis et laboriosis oneribus sit subjecta, expedit vos habere in consilio assistantes viros sapientes et prudentes, in utroque jure laudalibiter expertos, et notabiliter exercitatos in regimine causarum et negotiorum spiritualium ad cognotionem vestram et Curiæ vestræ spectantium. Et licet tales habeatis, tamen expediret plures habere, in consimilibus et majoribus exercitatos et expertos, consideratis omnibus considerandis, hiis diebus. Non enim Christus Paulo, licet doctori, sed Petro piscatori claves Ecclesiæ commisit; nec omnes super cathedram Moysi sedentes legem servabant, et ideo Christus ipsorum facta prohibuit aliis facienda; sed expertis et exercitatis magis creditur, quam sompniantibus, et palpantibus jura scripta.

Et, reverende pater, talibus opus habent qui populum regere debent, et per stateram justitiæ judicare; considerantes, si placet, quod non omnis credulitas facit fidem; nec est excusatio pastoris si grex dissipetur et pastor ignorat. Adhuc, pater, per ultimam litteram vestram, sigillo vestro minimo signatam, nobis insolite directam, videtur quod non placet vobis quod nos de cetero vobis scribamus vicibus iteratis, pro quovis remedio petendo super quibuscunque gravaminibus nobis illatis et inferendis; et ideo super hoc plangere cogimur, sicut orphani paterno præsidio destituti; verumptamen, de maternis uberibus plenius recreati speramus, Deo popitio, respirare temporibus opportunis.

291.—Tertia littera missa Domino Archiepiscopo pro compositione tenenda.

16 Dec. 1329.

L. 171 *b*.

The Chapter, discontented with the Archbishop's treatment of them, persist in complaining of encroachments upon their privileges, made by the Archbishop's officials and tenants. See p. 300.

Suo patri, id quod potest obedientiæ, reverentiæ, et honoris. Licet, per ultimas litteras vestras Capitulo directas, videatur quibusdam, quod non est voluntatis vestræ quod Conventus de cetero vobis scribant vicibus iteratis, pro quibusdam gravaminibus sibi, per ministros vestros, illatis vel inferendis; tamen, evangelicum parabolam memoriter recolens, qualiter amicus ille, licet non eo quod amicus tamen propter instantiam petentis, dedit ei et concessit omnia quæ petebat; paternitatem vestram deprecor et exoro, quatinus litteram vestram patentem, de compositione inter vos et Conventum, pro bono pacis servandæ, mittere velitis Conventui per præsentium portitorem, juxta tenorem alias vobis transmissum, vel magis competentem; scientes quod, licet ministris ad custodiam temporalium vestrorum deputatis præciperitis, ut dicitur, quod hujusmodi compositionem in omnibus observent tamen quidam ipsorum, injurias injuriis cumulantes, Conventui nuper varia gravamina intulerunt, contra formam compositionis prædictæ, nec credit Conventus

quod a vobis commissionem super hoc habeant nec mandatum. Non igitur, pater benigne, filios vestros sicut orphanos relinquatis, set pateant ipsis viscera vestra paterna, sicut piæ matris ubera filiis exhibent se lactanda. Valeat et prospere vigeat vestra paternitas sancta in Christo. Datum Cantuariæ xvj^to^ die Decembris.

292.—Littera Cancellario Domini Archiepiscopi missa pro eodem.

3 Jan. (1330). L. 171 *b*.

The Prior failing to carry his point with the Archbishop writes to the Archbishop's Chancellor reciting his complaints in detail, and showing by the highest authorities that the Archbishop is to blame.

The Archbishop has said that the Prior's complaints of invaded privileges are too vague to be answered.

The Prior replies that his letters were friendly remonstrances and not

Salutem et totius salutis Auctor. Cum nuper venerabili patri et domino nostro, Domino Cantuariensi Archiepiscopo, modicam scripturæ paginam mitteremus, rescriptum ad eandem, sigillo majori dicti patris signatum, recepimus, continens infrascripta. Primo, siquidem in dicto rescripto summarie continetur: Quod, quia in litteris nostris primis et secundis dicto patri transmissis, de confusis et generalibus et incertis injuriis et gravaminibus mentionem fecimus, non specificantes in eisdem nomen injuriæ, vel varia gravamina inserentes, præfatus pater non valuit hactenus, nec valet in præsenti, responsum nobis dare placidum ut vellemus. Adhuc, karissime, satis debet vobis constare, qualiter dicto patri scripsimus per viam supplicationis devotæ, et non per modum judicialis strepitus, animo litigandi; et ideo non oportuit singula in nostris litteris specificare. Ad hujusmodi igitur litteras nostras potuisset faciliter responderi; quoniam testante sapientis edicto, *voluntarios appetunt labores cupientes aliorum prospicere quieti.* Secundo: in eodem rescripto similiter continetur, quod dictus pater nunquam vidit aliquam conventionem inter nos et prædecessorem suum confectam, sigillo ipsius prædecessoris, sibi cognito vel incognito, consignatam; et canon dicit: *si scripturam autenticam non vidimus ad exemplaria nil facere possumus.* Adhuc industriam vestram non debet latere, quod conventio seu potius compositio de qua supra fit mentio in registro dicti patris, quod penes vos residet, serio-

sius registratur et in eodem de verbo ad verbum ipsam vidimus registratam; et ejusdem compositionis originalis una pars indentata, et sub sigillo communi Capituli Ecclesiæ Cantuariensis signata, quod autenticum reputatur, præfatus pater habet in sua potestate, cum sibi placuerit inspicienda; altera vero pars indentata, autentico sigillo bonæ memoriæ Bonefacii, quondam Cantuariensis Archiepiscopi, remanet in Ecclesia Cantuariensi; et ideo bona fides non patitur instrumenta hujusmodi autentica reprobari. Et juxta regulas canonicas: *Qui per se ipsum certus est, vel si voluerit esse potest, non oportet per alios ulterius certiorari.* Tertio, continet dictum rescriptum: quod prædictus pater præbere non potest viscera paterna filiis quorum indigentiam non videt. Adhuc sagax discretio vestra novit quod, juxta evangelicam doctrinam, sicut paterfamilias vigilare solet quia præscire non potuerit furis adventum, et mercenarius videns lupum venientem prævenit ipsum fugiendo; ita pastor sollicitus insidias luporum prævenire tenetur lupos fugando, et, ne gregem sibi commissam dissipent et invandant, continua sollicitudine præcavere; ait enim Doctor egregius Gregorius: *Non est excusatio pastoris si lupus oves devorat et pastor nescit;* et, ut dicit sapiens, *mortuis frustra medicina paratur;* et jura dicunt quod: *ordo præposterus plerumque vitiat judicis processum.* Singula vero præmissa in dicto rescripto contenta fratribus nostris, quorum interest, communicavimus, animo consulendi, de quibus non mediocriter admirant, et eo magis animo perturbantur quod viscera paterna sibi clauduntur; aperiat illa, cum voluerit, Qui corda patrum convertit in filios, et, ipsorum indigentiam præveniens, relevare dignetur. Valete in Christo sine quo nemo valere poterit nec vigere. Scriptum Cantuariæ iij° die Januarii.

notices in a law-suit.

To the Archbishop's plea that he knows nothing of the *Bonifacie composition*, it is answered that his ignorance is wilful and culpable.

It is hinted to the Archbishop that he runs the risk of being compared to a negligent householder and a hireling shepherd.

The monks are astonished and disturbed by the Archbishop's lack of paternal sympathy.

13 Jan. (1330).
L. 172 *a*.

293.—Responsio ad consultationem amici verbaliter faciendam non per scripturam.

The Archbishop, who is the *amicus* of the letter, is told that speech is more effective than writing. He is entreated not to affix his seal to letters directed to the Chapter and written by clerks until he has carefully read them, otherwise he may be sorry, afterwards, that he has done so.

Salutem. Super hiis quæ michi Magister R. clericus vester, per litteras vestras credenciæ, nuper exposuit, ea quæ michi videntur hac vice dicto Magistro R. plenius explicavi, vobis seriosius referenda; quia linguæ facunditas latius et expressius poterit illa quæ audierit præsentibus exponere facundia vocis vivæ, quam per paginas scriptas absentibus nuntiare. Et pro Jesu Christo, pater reverende, placeat vobis litteras vestras seorsum confectas, filiis vestris fratribus meis et michi vestro, dirigendas, inspicere, priusquam sigillo vestro signentur, ne per tales litteras deinceps conscienciæ vestræ puritas offendatur, vel aliqualiter conturbetur. Solebant enim Sancti Patres aliter filiis suis peculiaribus, et aliter famulis suis pedissequis, sua beneplacita communicare; sicut pastor [bonus separat oves suas][1] segregat agnos suos ab hœdis. Valete. Datum Cantuariæ xiij° die Januarii.

(Feb. 1330.)
L. 172 *a*.

294.—Littera missa diversis Episcopis pro legenda Sanctorum de novo canonizatorum nobis mittenda.

The Prior applies to various bishops asking them to supply him with the *lessons* proper to the Festival of the Translation of St. Richard (Confessor and Bishop of Chichester).

Salutem. Quia festivitas Translationis Sancti Ricardi in ecclesia nostra Cantuariensi sollempniter celebratur, dilectionem vestram rogamus, quatinus proprias lectiones, quæ in ecclesia cathedrali Cicestrensi ad matutinas leguntur die festivitatis Sancti Ricardi, nobis, sumptibus nostris, mittere velitis, in rotulo vel quaterno; bajulus enim præsentium scriptori satisfaciet pro scriptura. Valete sicut valere vellemus in Christo.

[1] These words were first written and then changed for those which follow.

24 Feb. (1330).

295.—Præmunitio facta Cancellario Domini Archiepiscopi ne servi alieni ordinentur sine licentia dominorum suorum. L. 172 *a*.

The Chancellor of the Archbishop is warned that it is unlawful to ordain men of servile condition without the consent of their lords; and he is called upon to notice that the Chapter are the feudal lords of certain manors the *nativi* of which come under the above-stated rule. The Chancellor has omitted to send to Canterbury a copy of the *constitutions* of the late Provincial Council.

Salutem quam peperit puerpera singularis. Quia jura prohibent nequis servos alienos ordinare præsumat, bonum est quod examinetis, et diligenter faciatis examinari, personas seculares ecclesiastica beneficia non habentes, antequam dominus noster Cantuariensis tales personas ordinet ad instantiam cujuscunque, nec expedit litteras dimissorias indistincte concedere talibus personis ut ab aliis episcopis valeant ordinari. Scientes quod illi qui de feodo et dominio nostro temporali, in quibusdam decanatibus exceptis, oriundi existunt, videlicet, in decanatibus de Rysebergh, Bockyngg, Croyndon, et Suth Mallyngg, non possunt ad ordines promoveri, nec etiam recipere primam tonsuram, nisi ordinandi super hoc a nobis optineant licenciam specialem. Adhuc, Miramur quod ea quæ in ultimo Concilio provinciali Londoniensi acta, statuta, et decreta fuerant observanda, nondum adhuc notificantur Capitulo metropolitano, juxta morem laudabilem consuetum. Præmissa vestræ memoriæ commendetis. Valete in Christo et Virgine gloriosa. Scriptum Cantuariæ xxiiij^to^ die Februarii.

13 April 1330.

296.—Certificatio de congregatione cleri apud Lamheth, anno Domini M°CCC^mo^XXX^mo^. L. 172 *a*

The Prior acknowledges the receipt of a summons to a convocation of clergy at Lambeth.

Venerabili in Christo patri Domino Simoni Dei gratia Cantuariensi Archiepiscopo, etc., devotus filius Henricus Prior, etc. Mandatum vestrum secundo die Aprilis proximo præterito recepimus tenorem continens infrascriptum: "Simon permissione, etc." Quod quidem mandatum vestrum Capitulo notificavi. Et ego, juxta vires meas, eidem mandato reverenter parebo.

Datum Cantuariæ xiij° die Aprilis, anno Domini M°CCC^mo^XXX^mo^.

(1330.) L. 170 *a*.

297.—Littera credenciæ de laudabilibus consuetudinibus Ecclesiæ Cantuariensis observandis.

The Prior sending two monks of his Convent to confer with with the Archbishop gives them this special letter of recommendation.

Inter alia speciosa quibus ornatur cura sollicita pastoralis, illud nimirum excellentius ipsam decorat, quod unitas inter patrem et filios spirituales optineat prinsipatum, quæ ipsos utrinque in caritate consolidet, in tranquillitate confirmet, et molestis eventibus viam præcludat. Sane, laudabiles consuetudines Ecclesiæ vestræ Cantuariensis decet et expedit observari, quæ convertunt in filios corda patrum, et ipsos excitant et inducunt ad exhibendum superioribus suis debitam reverentiam et honorem. Placeat igitur paternitati vestræ devotos filios vestros fratres A. et B., ad præsentiam vestram per Capitulum destinatos, ad audientiam admittere corde benigno, et negotia Capituli, per ipsos ista vice fiducialiter exponenda, feliciter expedire; considerantes incommoda temporis instantis, quia plures deprimit adversitas mundialis, quos extollat vana prosperitas hiis diebus. Valeat, &c.

20 Feb. 1330. L. 170 *a*.

298.—Commissio Prioris facta Thomæ Suppriori de nominatione fratrum ad officia diversa.

The Prior, absent from the monastery, appoints the Subprior his deputy for the purpose of appointing certain officers in the Convent.

Salutem. Quia messis est multa et operarii sunt pauci, oportet rogare Dominum messis ut mittat operarios in messem suam. Cœlestis enim Agricola multa plerumque abscondit a sapientibus et prudentibus, et ea parvulis revelat. De fratribus ad officia diversa vobis pridie nominatis; ad præficiendum, et in Capitulo pupplice nominandum, fratres Ricardum de Ikham Custodem maneriorum nostrorum de Waldis, Thomam de Sandwico Berthonarium, Thomam Golston tertium Cantorem, et Thomam de Holyngbourn Coquinarium, vobis committimus vices nostras. Scriptum apud Welles die Sanctæ Mildredæ Virginis, anno Dni. M°CCC^mo^XXIX^no^.

299.—De conditionibus nominandorum ad officia diversa. (1330.)
L. 170 *a*.

The Prior, while leaving the appointment of officers to the Subprior, instructs him in the qualities which go to make an efficient administrator.

Salutem. Cogitetis cum effectu de custode manerierorum, etc., qui sit prudens et providus, non prodigus nec bonorum communium dissipator, quodque de republica sit magis sollicitus quam de commodo suo privato; scitis enim quod plures claudicant in hac parte. Decet etiam et expedit quod Subelemosinarius sciat loqui; et intelligat clericos, pauperes, et peregrinos, loquentes et elemosinam postulantes; nec non examinare et instruere clericos in elemosinaria nostra degentes. Oportet etiam quod Subcamerarius sit sagax et circumspectus, sciens nova et vetera considerare, et quod singulis, non quod optant sed quod opus est, tempore debito subministret.

300.—De Arreragiis pensionis Magistri Henrici de Iddesworth. 5 Feb. 1331.
L. 137 *a*.

Receipt for his salary or pension given by one of the counsel of the Convent.

Universis pateat per præsentes, quod ego Henricus de Iddesworth, Canonicus Ecclesiæ Sancti Pauli Londoniarum, recepi et habui a religiosis viris Priore et Conventu, etc. novem libras sterlingorum pro omnibus arreragiis pensionis meæ in quibus mihi tenebantur; videlicet, pro anno Domini Millesimo CCC°XXVIIJ°–IX° et XXX°. De qua quidem pensione, tam pro eodem tempore quam pro omnibus terminis præcedentibus, fateor me esse bene paccatum, et mihi plenarie satisfactum. In cujus, etc. Dat. Cant. die Sanctæ Agathæ virginis, anno Domini MCCCXXX^mo.

301.—Commissio facta servienti de Depham ad petendum pensiones, redditus, et arreragia in civitate et diœcesi Norwycensi. 20 April 1330.
L. 172 *a*.

Serjeant's commission empowering

Universis patcat per præsentes, quod nos Henricus permissione, etc., facimus et constituimus dilectum et fidelem nostrum Ricardum Robert, servientem manerii

him to collect rents and dues in Norfolk.

nostri de Depham. procuratorem nostrum, et attornatum, et nuntium specialem; dantes eidem potestatem petendi, exigendi, et recipiendi, pensionem de ecclesia de Brethamtoftes, ac etiam arreragia ejusdem pensionis nobis debita; necnon omnes redditus, pensiones, et firmas, et arreragia eorundem, quæ nobis debentur ex quacunque causa, in civitate et diœcesi Norwicensi; et rationabiliter distringendi pro eisdem; ac etiam debitas allo-

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22 April 1330.

L. 172 *b*.

302.—Littera directa Domino J. Lange pro vinis nostris Franciæ.

Lange of Paris is informed that a draft given by him drawn on his English agent has been dishonoured. He is asked to send the cash in hand, received for the wine of St. Thomas, through the banking firm of the Bardi.

Saluz. Endroit de ceo qe vous nous mandastes nadgeres par voz lettres, qe vous avez comande a vostre procuratour qi porta a nous voz dites lettres, qil deust bailler a nous, des primers deners qe il en recevereit de vostre rente en Engleterre, xxx. livres desterlings, pur les arrerages de ij. ans de noz vins de France; cest assaver del an de grace M[l]CCCXXVIJ. et XXVIIJ.; voillez saver, qe vostre dit procuratour ne ad riens paye a nous de cele dette. Pur quey nous vous prioms cherement et fiablement, qe vous envoyez a nous en Engleterre les deners par ascun de voz gentz a noz custages, et nous le regarderoms pur son travail; ou qe vous baillez les deners as marchans de la compaignie de Bard de Florence qi sont a Paris; et qe vous nous envoyez lur lettres patentes qe il unt receu de vous tant deners a payer a nous a Londres. A Dieu qi vous gard. Donez a Canterbire le xxij[m] jour de Averil, lan de grace Mil CCCXXX.

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12 May (1330).

L. 172 *b*.

303.—De absolutione Domini Simonis Archiepiscopi ad cautelam.

The Archbishop, involved in some law suit, has fallen

Suo patri. Receptis litteris vestris, nuper michi transmissis, et copia tenoris litteræ *absolutionis ad cautelam*, quam procuratores vestri in Curia impetraverunt, videtur michi quod, in casu vestro littera

cationes et acquietantias, omnibus hujusmodi pensiones, redditus, et firmas, et arreragia eorundem, eidem solventibus, faciendi. Datum Cantuariæ, xx^mo die Aprilis, anno Dni. M°CCC^mo XXX^mo. Præsentibus post festum Sancti Michaelis post datam præsentium proxime sequens minime valituris.

302.

Greeting. As to what you have informed us of lately by your letters, namely, that you had directed your agent, who brought your said letters to us, that he was to hand to us, out of the first money that he received of your rents in England, thirty pounds sterling for the arrears of our French wines, that is to say, of the year of grace 1327 and 1328, please to learn that your said agent has paid us nothing of this debt. Wherefore, we pray you heartily and confidently, that you send the money to us in England, by one of your people at our cost, and we will give him a reward for his trouble; or that you hand the money to the banking company of the Bardi of Florence who are (established) at Paris; and that you send to us their letters patent (stating) that they have received of you a certain named sum of money, payable to us in London. God be with you and keep you. Given at Canterbury, the 22nd day of April, in the year of grace 1330.

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hujusmodi absolutionis sufficiens est pro vobis; nec video ad quod commodum finale, consideratis omnibus considerandis, prossequi et petere judicialiter dampna et interesse ab executoribus, qui pronuntiaverunt præcipitanter vos in hujusmodi sententiam incidisse; quia tales Abbates in partibus illis, fere omnes, habent bona sua separata, et distincta a conventibus suis. Et si contigerit ipsos Abbates vel

under a sentence (of excommunication), and has proposed to sue certain Abbots for damages and interest;

the Prior however warns him to be content with an *absolutio ad cautelam* which he has obtained from the Curia. By this instrument he would be relieved from the sentence if it should prove that he had incurred it.

alterum ipsorum cedere vel decedere, lite inter vos et ipsos pendente, forte videretur successoribus suis, quod pro injuriis personalibus prædecessorum suorum non tenerentur satisfacere quibuscunque. Et ideo expedit, ut videtur, quod instanter petatur simplex et finalis revocatio hujusmodi sententiæ, et cujuslibet executionis ejusdem cum sua sequela. Valeat et prospere vigeat dominus meus pater et pastor. Datum Cantuariæ, xij. die Maii.

304.—De professione Domini J. de Grandisono, Episcopi Exoniensis.

15 May 1330.

L. 172 *b*.

The Prior, whilst sending to the Archbishop a copy of the profession of canonical obedience made in the Church of Canterbury by Bishop Grandison of Exeter, explains the procedure usually observed in the case of a bishop consecrated at Rome, as Grandison was.

Suo patri. Litteras paternitatis vestræ xv^mo^ die Maii recepi, et super in eisdem contentis feci quod potui, juxta tantilli temporis brevitatem. Mitto vobis igitur, ad informationem vestram, tenorem, de verbo ad verbum, professionis Domini J. de Grandisono, Episcopi Exoniensis, in ecclesia vestra Cantuariensi pupplice et solempniter recitatæ, v^to^ die Februarii, anno Domini M^o^CCC^mo^XXVIJ^o^. Item: Copiam privilegii Innocentis [1] Papæ iiij^ti^, de episcopis provinciæ Cantuariensis in Romana Curia consecratis; scientes quod, de consuetudine Ecclesiæ Cantuariensis antiqua et approbata, hactenus est optentum, quod omnes episcopi provinciæ Cantuariensis, in Romana Curia consecrati, quamcito postea, sede Cantuariensi plena seu vacante, ad ecclesiam Cantuariensem accederent, professionem suam in ecclesia Cantuariensi in scriptis, pupplice et solempniter, recitabant,[1] juxta tenorem præscriptum; et, quamcito postea commode possent ad Archiepiscopum Cantuariensem accedere, hujusmodi professionem, in ecclesia Cantuariensi ut præmittitur futuro Archiepiscopo prius factam, coram ipso pupplice innovabant.[1] Super hiis igitur, pater reverende, cum sagaci consilio vestro ulterius deliberetis quid in hac

[1] Sic in MS.

parte consultius sit agendum. Valeat, etc., *ut supra.* Scriptum Cantuariæ, xv° die Maii (anno) supradicto.

305.—Littera citatoria Commissarii, pro invasione et violatione jurium et libertatum ecclesiæ, infra ambitum ecclesiæ. 17 May 1330. L. 173 *a.*

Thomas de Cantuaria, Commissarius Cantuariensis, Decano Cantuariæ, salutem. Mandamus vobis, in virtute obedientiæ firmiter injungentes, quatinus moneatis, seu moneri faciatis, et efficaciter inducatis Thomam dictum Plommere, de parochia Sancti Martini Cantuariæ quod, infra tres dies post monitionem vestram sibi factam, satisfaciat Deo, et Ecclesiæ, et Priori et Conventui Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, pro invasione et violatione jurium et libertatum Ecclesiæ; quæ nuper notorie, ut dicitur, invasit et violavit, infra ambitum Ecclesiæ Christi supradictæ. Alioquin citetis, seu citari faciatis peremptorie prædictum Thomam, quod compareat personaliter coram nobis, in ecclesia Christi prædicta, proximo die juridico post festum Sanctæ Trinitatis, propositurum et ostensurum causam rationabilem, si quam habeat, quare pro hujusmodi invasione et violatione jurium et libertatum dictæ Ecclesiæ non debet, prout justum fuerit, pronuntiari in sententiam excommunicationis majoris, a sanctis patribus provide latam, dampnabiliter incidesse; et super hiis de veritate dicenda personaliter juraturum, facturum ulterius, et recepturum quod justitia suadebit. De die vero receptionis præsentium, et quid super præmissis feceritis, nos, dictis die et loco, per litteras vestras patentes harum seriem continentes, certificare curetis. Datum Cantuariæ xvj. Kalendas Junii, anno Domini Millesimo cccmoxxxo.

The Commissary of the diocese of Canterbury directs the Dean (*Decanus Christianitatis*) of Canterbury to cite an offender who has invaded the privileges of Christ Church.

(June 1330.)

L. 173 *b*.

306.—Littera supplicatoria pro permutatione beneficii toleranda.

A private letter from the Prior to the Abp. asking him to allow the Rector of Boughton, Kent, to exchange his benefice.

Suo patri devotus filius totaliter semetipsum. Ad instantiam venerabilis patris Domini J(ohannis) Wyntoniensis Episcopi specialiter excitatus, paternitatem vestram deprecor et exoro, quatinus placeat vobis favorabiliter tolerare permutationem beneficiorum, quam Magister Jordanus rector ecclesiæ de Bocton vestræ Cantuariensis, et Dominus Johannes de Wyndesor rector ecclesiæ de Bydynton Wyntoniensis diœcesis, mutuo inter se, ex veris et rationabilibus causis, ut dicitur, facere intendunt; dumtamen hujusmodi permutationi aliquid canonicum non obsistat. Mores vero et conditiones laudabiles dicti Johannis multis decursis temporibus sum expertus. Valeat et vigeat, etc.

(June 1330.)

L. 173 *b*.

306.—Forma juramenti Notarii Prioris.

Form of oath to be taken by the Prior's notary on his entry upon his office.

Ego N. juro [ad] Sancta Dei Evangelia quod fideliter et diligenter serviam Priori et Capitulo Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis

Item: Quod fidele consilium, secundum quod Deus michi dederit gratiam, eisdem Priori et Capitulo præstabo, quotiens et quando super hoc fuero requisitus.

Item: Quod isporum consilia et secreta quæ scivero vel audiero fideliter celabo, nec illa alieni creaturæ revelabo, ad dampnum vel scandalum eorundem Prioris et Capituli, seu alicujus personæ ipsorum.

Item: Quod omnia dampna et scandala dictorum Prioris et Capituli quæ scivero, vel videro, seu ab aliis audiero, pro viribus meis impediam. Et si ea non impediero vel impedire non potuero, illa statem Priori vel Suppriori ejusdem Ecclesiæ fideliter notificabo.

307.—Littera Episcopo Roffensi Directa pro Monachis Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis ad ordines præsentandis. June 1330. L. 173 *a*.

Venerabili in Christo patri Domino H(aymoni) Dei gratia Roffensi Episcopo, suus devotus H(enricus) permissione ejusdem Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, cum omni reverentia et honore, salutem. Fratres nostros, quorum nomina in cedula præsentibus involuta vobis duximus præsentare, placeat paternitati vestræ instanti Sabbato quo cantatur officium *Sitientes*, in festo quatuor temporum, vigilia Trinitatis, per sacrarum vestrarum manuum impositionem ad ordines promovere, juxta formam litterarum dimissoriarum venerabilis patris Domini Simonis Dei gratia, etc., quas vobis mittimus inspiciendas, et nobis si placet per copiam remittendas. Valeat et prospere vigeat paternitas vestra in Christo.

The Bishop of Rochester is asked to confer orders upon certain monks of Canterbury, whose names were furnished to him on a separate paper but not copied into the register.

Monachi Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuar. ordinandi in vigilia Trinitatis.

A, B, C } In acolitos. | N, N, N } Ad ordinem Subdiaconatus. | N, N, N } Ad ordinem Diaconatus.

A, B, C } Ad ordinem Presbyteratus.

308.—Litteræ dimissoriæ Domini Simonis Archiepiscopi pro monachis ecclesiæ Cantuariensis ordinandis. 6 June 1330. L. 173 *a*.

Symon permissione Divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, totius Angliæ Primas, dilecto in Christo filio Domino Priori Ecclesiæ nostræ Christi Cantuariensis, salutem, gratiam, et benedictionem. Ut quicunque fratres, commonachi Capituli ejusdem nostræ Ecclesiæ, quos vos, Domine Prior, duxeritis præsentandos, a quocunque episcopo catholico nostræ Cantuariensis provinciæ, executionem sui officii obtinente, sacrarum

The Archbishop's dimissory letters permitting the ordination of the above-mentioned monks.

impositione manuum, ad omnes minores et sacros quos nondum sunt ordines assecuti, valeant promoveri; et (ut) qualiscunque episcopus hujusmodi, in ipsa nostra Cantuariensi ecclesia et alibi in nostra diœcesi et provincia, pro ipsis fratribus ordinandis, diebus ad id aptis, ordines valeat celebrare, ecclesias etiam, capellas, altaria, et cimiteria, in ecclesia et diœcesi nostra prædictis consecrare, dedicare, et reconciliare, valeat, tam hujusmodi fratribus quam episcopis liberam, tenore præsentium, concedimus facultatem. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum nostrum præsentibus est appensum. Data apud Lambeth, viij. Idus Junii anno Domini MºCCCºXXXº.

29 June. 1330.

L. 173 *b*.

309.—De confirmatione compositionis Norwycensis directa Archiepiscopo.

Consequent upon the refusal of the Chapter of Norwich to allow a visitation by Archbishop Raynold, *sede Norwicensi vacante*, Archbishop Meopham has made a compromise with the Chapter, and has submitted it to the Prior of Canterbury. By this letter he approves the form of the compo-

Suo patri. Litteris vestris credenciæ, per Magistrum R. de Weston clericum vestrum, nuper receptis, et in Capitulo recitatis, auditaque credencia ejusdem Magistri R. de negotio Norwycensi, statim tractatum cum fratribus habui extra Capitulum super præmissis. Postea in Capitulo, coram omnibus fratribus ad hoc specialiter convocatis, compositionem Norwycensem publice legere feci, et seriosius exponi ad informationem juniorum. Quam quidem compositionem omnes et singuli unanimiter acceptarunt, et eidem consensum præbuerunt expressum. Et ideo, pater reverende, quamcito receperitis litteras patentes dupplicatas Domini W(illelmi) Norwycensis Episcopi, ac etiam litteras patentes dupplicatas et sigillatas sigillo communi Capituli Ecclesiæ Norwycensis; unam videlicet litteram penes vos et successores vestros retinendam, et aliam litteram penes Capitulum Ecclesiæ vestræ Cantuariensis ad perpetuam memoriam remanendam,[1] de prædicta compositione per præfatos Dominum Episcopum et Priorem et Capitulum Norwycensibus, in omnibus suis

[1] Sic MS.

articulis acceptata et inviolabiliter observanda; statim prædictam compositionem quam michi misistis, de verbo ad verbum, sigillatam sigillo communi Capituli vobis mittam, quam præfatus Magister R. vidit signatam. Et credo, pater sanctissime, sicut alias vobis scripsi, quod propter lites quasi immortales in Curia Romana, et plures alias causas variis periculis subjectas, vos in dicto negotio Norwycensi per viam securiorem procedere decrevistis. Valeat et prospere vigeat Dominus meus pater et pastor. Scriptum Cantuariæ die Apostolorum Petri et Pauli, anno Domini M°CCC^mo°XXX°.

sition, and applauds the Archbishop's prudence in avoiding a law suit. Appx. 78.

310.—Prohibitio Regis de provisione facta per Papam de Prioratu de Lewes.

14 July 1330.

L. 174 *a*.

Edwardus, etc. Priori Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, salutem. Monstravit nobis dilectus consanguineus et fidelis noster Johannes de Warrenn Comes Surreiæ, quod, cum inter antecessores ipsius Comitis et quondam Abbatem Cluniacensem certa compositio, de substituendo Priore in prioratu de Lewes, qui de ipsius Comitis patronatu existit, abolim inita fuisset, et firmata, et hactenus inviolabiliter observata; ut, videlicet, Abbas Cluniacensis, qui pro tempore fuerit, nuntiata sibi vacatione dicti prioratus ex parte dicti Comitis, duos monachos, de magis sufficientibus et magis ydoneis ordinis illius, per litteras suas patentes præsentare debeat Comiti Surreiæ, qui pro tempore fuerit, et is qui idem Comes ex ipsis eligerit et admiserit extunc haberi debet pro Priore; tanquam[1] intelleximus quod, licet religiosus vir nunc Abbas Cluniacensis dilectum nobis in Christo Fratrem Petrum, nunc Priorem Lewesensem, ad eundem prioratum, una cum quodam alio, præfato Comiti nuper præsentaverit, et idem Comes ipsum admiserit, juxta formam compositionis prædictæ; tu tamen, prætextu

The Prior, as executor of a papal *provision*, is said to have molested the newly and duly appointed Prior of Lewes in the quiet possession of his office, to the immediate damage of the Earl of Warenne and the remote prejudice of the Crown. By this royal prohibition he is forbidden to meddle farther in a matter in

[1] Sic MS. *tamen?*

which he has no *locus standi.*

cujusdam provisionis, Fratri Johanni de Curteney monacho abbatiæ de Tavystok, de prioratu prædicto per Sedem Apostolicam factæ, quasdam inhibitionis, citationes, et alia impedimenta, fieri procurasti, quæ, si procederent, in nostri præjudicium, et ipsius Comitis exheredationis periculum possent verisimiliter evenire; maxime cum hujusmodi optio et admissio ad nos et heredes nostros, ratione custodiæ et aliis modis diversis, possent devolvi. Et cognitio compositionis prædictæ ad nos, et non ad Curiam Christianitatis, spectat, secundum legem et consuetudinem regni nostri; super quo idem Comes nobis supplicavit, ut, sibi in hac parte velimus de remedio providere. Nos, ad præmissa considerationem habentes, attendentesque, quod de prioratibus seu beneficiis existentibus de laico patronatu, provisiones hujusmodi in regno nostro

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(July 1330.)

311.—RESPONSIO FACTA AD PROHIBITIONEM PRÆDICTAM.

The Prior has a good answer to the foregoing prohibition; for he assures the Count that he has had no papal letters committed to him for execution, and that he does not even know the *Provisor* by name.

A noble Seignur, et soun bien ame en Dieu Sire Johan de Warenne, Counte de Surrey, Henri Priour del Esglise de Caunterbire, saluz, et saunte de corps et de alme. Pur ceo qe nostre Seignur le Roy nous manda nadgeres, par ses lettres, quil avoit entendu qe nous avioms fait, et procure a faire, inhibicions, citacions, et autres destourbances, en prejudice del dit nostre Seignur le Roy, et en desheritaunce de vous, par ancheson de une provision faite par nostre Sainte Piere le Pape a Frere Johan Courteney, moyne del Abbaye de Tavystok, de la priourte de Lewes, qest de vostre patronage: trescher Seignur, voillez savoir, qe nous ne savoms qy le dit Johan de Courteney est, ne unques a luy ne parlames, ne a luy ne a autre pur luy, ne pur luy a nous ne parla, ne monstra, ne maunda de les dites busoynes; et pur ceo, trescher Sire, nous ne avoms rien fait de les dites busoynes, ne nul maundement receu de nostre seint piere le Pape; et pur ceo Sire nous vous prioms qe,

fieri non consueverunt temporibus retroactis, ac volentes hujusmodi præjudicio et exheredationis periculo, quatinus potuerimus, obviare; tibi districte prohibemus, ne quicquam in hac parte, quod in nostri præjudicium, aut ipsius Comitis exheredationem, seu in enervationem compositionis prædictæ cedere valeat, nobis inconsultis, attemptes seu attemptari facias quovis modo: sciens quod, si secus facere præsumpseris, ad te, tanquam ad violatorem jurium coronæ nostræ et contemptorem mandatorum nostrorum, graviter, sicut convenit, capiemus. Teste meipso apud Wodestok, xiiij^mo die Julii, anno regni nostri quarto.

Istam prohibitionem recepimus apud Broke, die Sancti Jacobi Apostoli, anno quarto regni Regis Edwardi tertii post conquestum.

311.

To the noble Lord, and his well-beloved in God, Sir John de Warenne Earl of Surrey, Henry, Prior of the Church of Canterbury, greeting, and health of body and soul. Whereas our Lord the king lately sent word to us by his letters, that he had heard that we had made, and procured to be made, inhibitions, citations, and other interruptions, in prejudice of our said Lord the king, and in disherison of yourself, on the occasion of a provision made by our Holy Father the Pope, to Brother John Courteney, monk of Tavistock Abbey, to the priorate of Lewes, which is in your patronage; very dear Lord, please to believe, that we do not know who the said John de Courteney may be, nor have we ever spoken to him, neither directly to himself nor to any other person on his account, nor has he explained, nor communicated anything of the said matters; and therefore, very dear Sir, we have had no hand in the said matters, nor have we received any mandate from our Holy Father the Pope; and hence, Sir, we pray you that, in virtue

en droit de cestes chose, nous voillez avoir excusez. Escript, etc.

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17 July (1330). L. 174 *a*.

The Prior, who has only heard contradictory rumours about a council held by the King at Osney, thanks the Archbishop for some trustworthy information on the subject.

312.—De tractatu Domini Regis apud Oseneyam.

Salutem. Quia, de instanti tractatu solempni nuper habito apud Oseneyam, diversi diversa loquntur, quo magis inde veritas multos latet; paternitati vestræ grates refero quantas possum, quod certitudinem præmissorum voluistis innotescere michi vestro. Approprinquatio vestra erit michi proculdubio consolatoria et prosperitatis conservativa, quatenus permittunt incommoda senectutis. Valeat, etc. Scriptum Cantuariæ xvij die Julii.

(Sept. 1330.) L. 174 *b*.

The Subprior is instructed by the Prior to admit two scholars, who have passed a qualifying examination, to the Benedictine order as novices. He is also urged to find other suitable candidates for admission.

313.—De duobus scolaribus admissis per Thomam Suppriorem de mandato Prioris.

Salutem quam sibi. Super hiis quæ nobis hac die Veneris scripsistis quoad duos scolares, more solito coram fratribus examinatos, vestram diligentiam commendamus; volentes quod vos, coram duobus senioribus fratribus, dictos duos scolares, præstito ab eisdem primitus juramento de veritate dicenda super articulis ob hoc ordinatis, quos penes vos habetis, seriatim diligentius examinetis, et, si nichil canonicum seu notabile dictis scolaribus obsistat, ipsos, vice et auctoritate nostra, ad habitum monasticum admittatis; injungentes eisdem quod extunc bene se habeant et honeste, prout in cedula hujusmodi articulorum quam habetis plenius continetur. Et, si ante adventum nostrum, quod velit Deus, plures scolares, consimiles conditiones laudabiles habentes, coram vobis appareant, similem processum facere non omittatis. Valete, etc.

of these things, you will be willing to hold us excused. Written, &c.

314.--(De clericis habitum monachalem recepturis.) L. 184 *b*.

Sketch of the examination to which candidates for admission as novices were submitted at Canterbury.

Clerici petentes habitum monachalem, antequam recipiantur jurent, tactis sacris Evangeliis, de veritate dicenda super articulis infrascriptis:

Si voto vel juramento prius se obligaverint ad aliquam aliam religionem intrandam.

Item: Si voto vel alio modo obligati fuerint ad peregrinationem Terræ Sanctæ vel Ecclesiæ Romanæ.

Item: Si ad matrimonium contractum vel contrahendum se obligaverint, vel affidaverint aliquam mulierem.

Item: Si aliquod homicidium vel aliud maleficium commiserint, vel homicidis vel aliis maleficis consilium præstiterint vel consensum.

Item: Si in judicio sanguinis præsentes fuerint, vel judicium sanguinis procuraverint.

Item: Si manus violentas injecerint in clericum, religiosum, vel conversum.

Item: Si aliquam sententiam excommunicationis vel suspensionis incurrerint, a qua non sunt absoluti.

Item: Si obligati fuerint juramento, vel alio modo, ad solvendum debitum alicujus pecuniæ, vel compotum alicui reddendum.

Item: Si sint liberæ conditionis, et de legitimo matrimonio procreati.

Item: Si aliquam irregularitatem contraxerint, vel aliud impedimentum quodcumque, publicum vel occultum, habeant, quare non possint libere, sine scandalo, et absque periculo animarum suarum, habitum religionis assumere, et ad omnes sacros ordines canonice promoveri.

Item: Si aliquam infirmitatem incurabilem, vel morbum contagiosum habeant, vel in aliquo membro corporis fuerint mutilati.

Cum tales clerici singillatim fuerint examinati super omnibus articulis prædictis, si nichil canonicum eis obsistat, Prior, in capella sua, hujusmodi clericos singillatim manualiter recipiat, per verba subscripta.

"In nomine Sanctæ Trinitatis nos recipimus et admittimus te ad ordinem Sancti Benedicti, et ad habitum monachalem portandum in ista Ecclesia tempore probacionis, et ulterius solempniter profitendum, juxta observancias regulares et canonicas sanctiones."

Item: cum tales clerici sic admissi fuerint, Prior injungat eis, in virtute juramenti præstiti, quod matutinas et omnes horas et vesperas de Sancta Maria singulis diebus dicant; et divinum officium et missam in ecclesia cotidie audiant, nisi ex causa necessaria fuerint præpediti.

Item: quod sobrie et modeste se habeant et honeste quamdiu fuerint in habitu seculari.

Item: quod a communione et colloquiis se subtrahant omnium personarum suspectarum.

Item: quod de bonis suis, tam mobilibus quam immobilibus, sapienter et prudenter ordinent et disponant de consilio amicorum suorum; et libros, si quos habuerint, in libraria Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis reponant, inspiciendos tempore oportuno.

Item: quod de cetero matrimonium non contrahant, nec habitum religionis alibi assumant, absque consilio et consensu Prioris.

23 July 1330.

L. 187 *a*.

315.—Commissio Domini Archiepiscopi facta Abbati de Faversham de decima quadriennali anno Domini mcccxxx°.

The Archbishop announces

Symon permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, etc., collector decimæ quadriennalis reddituum et

proventuum ecclesiasticorum civitate et diœcesi Cantuariensibus, per sanctissimum in Christo patrem et dominum Dominum Johannem, divina providentia Papam xxij^{m}, nobis et personis ecclesiasticis dictarum civitatis et diœcesis impositæ per Sedem Apostolicam, deputatus, dilecto filio Abbati de Feveresham, nostræ diœcesis, salutem, et apostolicis mandatis firmiter obedire. Litteras sanctissimi patris prædicti, ipsius vera bulla plumbea cum filo canapis, more Romanæ Curiæ, bullatas, v^{to} Idus Julii, necnon litteras venerabilis viri Domini Icherii de Concoreto, ejusdem domini nostri Papæ in Anglia nuntii, sigillo ejusdem signatas, xiij^{o} Kalendas Augusti recepimus, sub istis tenoribus qui sequuntur.

that he has received a papal bull directing the collection of a tenth of ecclesiastical incomes, and he appoints the Abbot of Faversham his sub-collector.

"Johannes Episcopus, servus servorum Dei, venerabilibus fratribus Archiepiscopo Cantuariensi ejusque suffraganeis, salutem, et apostolicam benedictionem. Nuper dilecti filii nobiles viri Guillelmus de Monteacuto et Bartholomeus de Bourghassh milites, karissimi in Christo filii nostri Edwardi Regis Angliæ nuntii, ad nostram præsentiam venientes pro parte regis ejusdem, proponere curaverunt, quod rex præfatus, intensis obtat desideriis ecclesias et personas ecclesiasticas regni et terrarum suarum sic in suis juribus, privilegiis, et immunitatibus, ab injuriis et violentiis protegere ac tueri, quod divinis possint intendere, famulatumque suum pacifice Altissimo exhibere; sicque per terras et regnum prædicta, sibi Regis regum assistente dextera, laudabiliter regere, quod in illis inter improbos tuta innocentia perseveret. Set quia, multorum exigente malitia, rex præfatus adeo in sui novitate regiminis, et etiam ante, fuit guerris et variis turbationibus aliis occupatus, quod, ut regnum prædictum ad pacificum statum reduceret, ipsum exponere periculis variis, et innumera subire oportuit profluvia expensarum, ita quod nec nedum

The Pope's bull, 3 Jan. 1330.

The King's ambassadors have represented to the Pope the exhausted state of the royal exchequer,

suum evacuari ærarium,[1] set eum etiam oportuit submittere grandibus et importabilibus oneribus debitorum. Cumque præmissa sine Sanctæ Matris Ecclesiæ subsidio comode nequeat, sicut præfati proposuerunt nuntii, adimplere, nobis, pro parte regis ejusdem, humiliter supplicarunt, ut ad prædicta, necnon ad intensum quem idem[2] rex gerit affectum nobis et Ecclesiæ complacendi, nostrum intuitum convertentes, aperire sibi sinum nostræ benevolentiæ, in tantæ necessitatis articulo, dignaremur. Nos præmissa diligentius attendentes, licet præfato regi compatiamur internis affectibus super eis, considerantes tamen multiplicia onera expensarum quibus Ecclesia Romana, ob hæreticorum, et cismaticorum, ac rebellium suorum furentem sævitiam et intumescentem superbiam, qui Ecclesiam ipsam crudeliter et immaniter prosequi et molestare, fidemque catholicam impetere, periculose nimium in partibus Italiæ præsumpserunt hactenus, et incessanter præsumunt, prægravata extitit quamplurimum, et gravatur continue super vires; necnon gravia pericula quibus Ecclesia memorata et fides ipsa catholica subjicerentur, si propter defectum expensarum, ad quas ministrandas proventus nostræ Cameræ sunt exiles nimium, indefensæ, quod avertat Altissimus, remanerent, diligenti meditatione pensantes, providere, assistente nobis divina gatia, cupimus; quod utriusque necessitatibus, videlicet, ejusdem Ecclesiæ super prædictis suis oneribus, ac regis præfati, ut suum utique Deo gratum, circa ea quæ prædicti proposuerunt nuntii, desiderium adimpleri comodius valeat, aliqualiter consulatur. Ideo deliberatione cum nostris fratribus præhabita super hiis diligenti, decimam omnium vestrorum et aliorum proventuum et reddituum ecclesiasticorum, in regno Angliæ, et Walliæ, et Hiberniæ, terris et partibus prædictis, consistentium, per quatuor

and asked the Pope's assistance,

who considering that the Roman Court is as much impoverished as the King of England

decides that the clergy of England shall for four years pay a tenth

[1] *errarium*, MS. | [2] *iidem*, MS.

annos, ab instanti festo Resurrectionis Dominicæ in antea computandos, a vobis et omnibus et singulis personis ecclesiasticis, exemptis et non exemptis, regni, terrarum, et partium eorundem, præterquam a dilectis filiis Magistro et Fratribus Hospicii Sancti Johannis Jerosolymitani, qui contra hostes fidei Christianæ exponunt jugiter se et sua, quousque propter hoc a præstatione hujus decimæ exceptos esse volumus et immunes, juxta modum exigendam solitum, de dictorum fratrum consilio, auctoritate apostolica, per nostras litteras duximus imponendam. Volentes et ordinantes quod inter nos, pro nostris et ejusdem Ecclesiæ, regemque prædictum pro suis utilius relevandis necessitatibus, annis singulis decima ipsa dimidiaretur[1] æqualiter, sicut inferius continetur. Volumus etiam, quod per vos et alios Archiepiscopos et Episcopos regni, terrarum, et partium prædictorum, in vestris singulis civitatibus et diœcesibus, a personis et locis earundem civitatum et diœcesium, in duobus terminis, singulis annis ejusdem quadriennii, videlicet, pro medietate in festo Nativitatis Beati Johannis Baptistæ, et pro alia medietate in festo Sancti Martini extunc proxime subsequente, quos vobis et eisdem personis ad prædictam solvendam decimam, per easdem litteras nostras, præfiximus et etiam assignavimus, colligeretur et exigeretur prædicta decima, et per vos de vestris redditibus et proventibus, juxta morem observatum, attentius solveretur; et cum in singulis terminis collecta per vos, de vestris redditibus et proventibus, ut præmittitur, persoluta fuisset, illi vel illis, quem vel quos ad eam recipiendam a vobis deputaremus, per vos et vestrum singulos assignaretur integraliter, in terminis supradictis; cujus quidem decimæ medietatem pro nobis et eadem Ecclesia, in nostrorum et ipsius relevationem onerum, convertendam

of their incomes,

except the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, which earns exemption by its services.

The tenth is to be collected by half-yearly moieties,

and, when collected, divided equally between the Pope

[1] *dimideretur*, MS.

and the King;

retineri, et aliam medietatem præfato regi, vel suo certo mandato, assignari, ille vel illi qui a nobis deputarentur, ut præfertur, super hoc procurarent.

malversation being punished by excommunication.

Nos vero in omnes et singulos, cujuscumque forent præeminentiæ, dignitatis, aut status, qui aliquid de pecunia dictæ decimæ aliter reciperent, excommunicationis sententiam duximus promulgandam. Præterea volumus, quod per vos et subcollectores, a vobis in[1] singulis vestris civitatibus et diœcesibus, deputandos, personas ecclesiasticas, exemptas et non exemptas, vestrarum civitatum et diœcesium, alias tamen sine præjudicio exemptionum personarum et locorum exemptorum, ad solvendam prædictam decimam in subscriptis terminis, per censuram ecclesiasticam ac sequestrationem fructuum beneficiorum ipsorum in eisdem vestris civitatibus et diœcesibus consistentium, invocato ad hoc, si et quando necesse fuerit et non alias, auxilio brachii secularis, appellatione postposita, cogeretis; vosque de vestris proventibus et redditibus ecclesiasticis eandem decimam in eisdem terminis solvere similiter curaretis; alioquin, si defeceritis in solutione hujusmodi in prædictis terminis facienda, sententias quas per vos, vel subcollectores vestros in vestris civitatibus et diœcesibus, ut præmittitur, deputandos, proferri contigerit,[2] vos incurrere volumus ipso facto; a quibus, post satisfactionem inde impensam plenarie, per aliquem de vicinioribus episcopis, similibus sententiis non ligatum ac gratiam et communionem Apostolicæ Sedis habentem, possetis absolutionis beneficium obtinere. Et ne de moneta in qua fieret dictæ decimæ solutio, et fieri deberet, posset quomodolibet esitari, vitarenturque gravamina quæ propter talia viri ecclesiastici attentius sunt perpessi, nostræ intentionis existit, quod ad monetam currentem levaretur prædicta decima et etiam exigeretur, juxta

All churchmen, exempt and not exempt, are to contribute under the same penalty.

The current coin of the place of payment to be accepted without hesitation

[1] *et* MS.

[2] *contingeret*, MS.

constitutionem super hoc editam in Concilio Viennensi, ita quod prætextu alterius cambii debitores et solutores dictæ decimæ nullatenus gravarentur. Hujusmodi autem solutionem decimæ, de dicta moneta currenti, vos et singuli vestrum in singulis vestris civitatibus et diœcesibus, necnon aliæ personæ ecclesiasticæ, exemptæ et non exemptæ, dictarum civitatum et diœcesium, in eisdem civitatibus et diœcesibus, et non aliter, facere tenentur juxta taxationem in eisdem civitatibus et diœcesibus hactenus observatam; vel, ubi hujusmodi nulla foret certa taxatio, secundum consuetudinem in exactione et solutione hujusmodi hactenus observatam; et absque aliquo alio illorum onere a quibus ipsa decima exigeretur fieret solutio antedicta, nisi forte, propter defectum solutionis ipsorum, expensas fieri opoteret; quo casu eos ad restitutionem illarum astringi volumus, et teneri; quodque, juxta constitutionem Concilii memorati, calices, libri, et alia ornamenta ecclesiastica, divinis officiis deputata, ratione dictæ decimæ nullatenus, ex causa pignoris vel alias, caperentur. Sed vos adversus contumaces et rebelles vestrarum civitatum et diœcesium, super solutione dictæ decimæ in terminis antedictis, censuram exerceretis ecclesiasticam, ut est dictum; et nichilominus, eos qui se forsan rebelles et contumaces vobis manifeste et maliciose redderent, in hac parte, citare possetis ad Romanam Curiam, et certum eis peremptorium terminum assignare, quo se personaliter apostolico conspectui præsentarent, super hiis pro meritis recepturi, ac facturi, et responsuri, prout justitia suadebit; nobis diem citationis hujusmodi et præfixionis termini supradicti, per vestras litteras et proprios nuntios, nichilominus intimando. Quocirca fraternitati vestræ, in virtute obedientiæ, per apostolica scripta mandamus, quatinus vos et singuli vestrum, quos in singulis vestris civitatibus et diœcesibus collectores prædictæ decimæ tenore præsentium deputamus, eandem decimam ab omnibus personis eccle-

as decreed by a constitution of the Council of Vienne.

The usual *taxation* or assessment of each benefice to be the measure of the *disme*,

and those from whom payment is extracted with difficulty are to pay costs.

Books, plate and other ecclesiastical instruments and ornaments are not to be received in pledge or payment.

Recalcitrant clergy may be dealt with by the Collectors themselves, with ultimate resort, when desirable, to the Curia.

siasticis, exemptis et non exemptis, earundem civitatum et diocesium, per vos et subcollectores vestros a vobis constituendos super hiis, exigere ac colligere; vosque illam de vestris redditibus et proventibus ecclesiasticis solvere in eisdem terminis, singulis annis ejusdem quadriennii, integraliter et fideliter studeatis: ac eandem decimam, postquam collecta et soluta in singulis eisdem terminis fuerit, illi vel illis quem vel quos ad eam recipiendam a vobis deputabimus, ut superius exprimitur, assignetis; et nichilominus contradictores quoslibet et rebelles, exemptos et non exemptos, ad solutionem ejusdem decime, per vos et subcollectores vestros, singulos vestrum in singulis vestris civitatibus et diocesibus, compellere, necnon contra contumaces, ut superius exprimitur, ad citationem

How Collectors must behave themselves, they are to [illegible] and the same [illegible] de non par. The words of commission by which [illegible] are to be [illegible]

personam procedere valeatis. Volumus quod vos et singuli vestrum, si defeceritis[1] in ejusdem solutione decime in prelibatis terminis faciendo, similes sententias, quas per vos et subcollectores vestros easdem non solventes in eisdem terminis [illegible] possitis, sicut superius est expressum, absolvi. Super quibus omnibus necnon faciendi, a subcollectoribus per vos et vestrum singulos in singulis vestris civitatibus et diocesibus ut premittitur deputandis, vobis [illegible] assignari et alia faciendi, quod et exercendi, que circa premissa juxta modum et formam expressos superius, fuerint oportuna, vobis et vestrum singulis in singulis vestris civitatibus et diocesibus plenam concedimus auctoritate presentium, facultatem. Non obstantibus, si vobis aut quibusvis aliis conjunctim vel divisim a dicta sit Sede indultum quod ad solutionem alicujus decime minime teneamini, et ad id compelli aut per quodlibet suspensis vel excommunicari non possitis, per litteras apostolicas que de

General exemptions from the payment of subsidies, granted by the Apos-

[1] defecerints MS.

indulto hujusmodi, ac toto ejus tenore de verbo ad verbum, ac propriis ordinum, locorum, et personarum eorum nominibus plenam et expressam non fecerint mentionem, et quibuslibet privilegiis, indulgentiis, exemptionibus, et litteris apostolicis, quibuscunque dignitatibus seu ordinibus eorundem, aut personis singularibus, vel quibuscumque aliis generaliter et specialiter, sub quacumque forma vel expressione verborum, a memorata Sede concessis, de quibus quorumcunque totis tenoribus de verbo ad verbum in nostris litteris specialis et expressa mentio sit habenda. Ut autem prædicta decima, in usus convertenda prædictos, magis solerter et fideliter colligatur, volumus quod quilibet subcollector, a vobis super collectionem ejusdem decimæ deputandus, præstet in manibus illius qui eum deputaverit, sub forma quæ sequitur, juramentum.

tolic See to persons or corporations, not to entitle them to exemption in this case.

'Ego . . . . . subcollector decimæ quadriennalis reddituum et proventuum ecclesiasticorum per Sedem Apostolicam impositæ, in civitate et diœcesi a venerabili patre Domino Dei gratia Collectore ipsius decimæ in suis civitate et diœcesi deputatus, juro, ad sancta Dei Evangelia, quod fideliter exigam, colligam, recipiam, et custodiam ipsam decimam, non deferendo in hiis alicui personæ, cujuscumque status, ordinis, conditionis, aut dignitatis existat, prece, pretio, amore, gratia, vel favore, seu quacumque de causa; et eam integre restituam et assignabo eidem Domino cum collecta fuerit in singulis terminis supradictis, indeque reddam fidelem et legitimam rationem.'

The Subcollector's oath.

Præterea volumus, quod si aliquem vestrum subtrahi de medio, dicto quadriennio durante, contigerit, Capitulum Ecclesiæ illius qui sic subtrahetur ea quæ ille circa ministerium collectionis prædictæ haberet agere si viveret, quousque alius creatus fuerit, diligenter et fideliter exequetur. Data Avinoniæ iij° Nonas Januarii pontificatus nostri anno quartodecimo.

The letter of the *Nuntius*, 19th July 1330,

"Reverendis in Christo patribus Dominis Dei gratia Archiepiscopo Cantuariensi ejusque suffraganeis, Icherius de Concoreto, canonicus Sarisburiensis, Domini nostri Papæ et Apostolicæ Sedis in Anglia, Scotia, Wallia, et Hibernia, nuntius, salutem in omnium Salvatore. Noveritis nos litteras sanctissimi patris et domini nostri Domini Johannis, divina providentia Papæ xxij^{di}, cum filio canapis, more Romanæ Curiæ, bullatas, non vitiatas, non cancellatas, nec aliqua sua parte suspectas, sed omni vitio et suspicione carentes, nobis directas, cum ea qua decuit reverentia, recipisse, quarum tenor talis est.

which recite the Pope's bull as before given, with an addition appointing the *Nuntius* to be Receiver of the tenth when collected.

"'Johannes Episcopus, servus servorum Dei *etc. sicut in prima bulla usque ad verba:* excommunicationis sententiam duximus promulgandam; te postmodum, per alias nostras litteras, ad recipiendum decimam ipsam ab eisdem Archiepiscopis et Episcopis, sicut in eisdem plenius continetur litteris, deputato. Sane quia primus terminus solutionis decimæ supradictæ præfixus in festo Sancti Johannis Baptistæ proximo futuro instare noscitur, litteris nostris confectis super impositione ac collectione ipsius nondum in eisdem regno et partibus publicatis, nos, volentes prælatorum ac personarum ecclesiasticorum prædictorum præcavere gravaminibus, quibus subjicerentur forsitan si ad solvendam medietatem hujus decimæ tam brevi termino artarentur, prædictum terminum usque ad instans festum Beati Michaelis Archangeli prorogandi (alias tamen et aliter litteris nostris prædictis in suo robore duraturis) plenam discretioni tuæ concedimus, tenore præsentium, facultatem. Data Avinoniæ Nonis Junii pontificatus nostri anno quartodecimo."

But, as the term of Midsummer first assigned for the payment of the first moiety is too near, the payment is postponed to Michaelmas.

"Littera Icherii."

Quarum auctoritate litterarum, dictum terminum festi Beati Johannis Baptistæ nuper transactum, in quo tam vos quam aliæ quæcumque personæ ecclesiasticæ vestrarum civitatum et diœcesium, dictis Magistro et fratribus exceptis, medietatem decimæ omnium fruc-

tuum, reddituum, et proventuum ecclesiasticorum, vestrorum et suorum, solvere debebatis et debebant, prout in supradictis litteris apostolicis continetur, vobis, ac vestrum cuilibet, ac ipsis personis ecclesiasticis et earum singulis, secundum formam et tenorem litterarum apostolicarum prædictarum, usque ad instans festum Beati Michaelis Archangeli, tenore præsentium, prorogamus. Ita tamen, quod infra dictum terminum, seu in dicto termino festi Beati Michaelis Archangeli dicta medietas decimæ, a vobis et dictis personis ecclesiasticis, sub pœnis, modis, conditionibus, et censuris in dictis apostolicis litteris comprehensis, sub quibus in termino festi Beati Johannis Baptistæ supradicto debebatur persolvi, integraliter persolvatur ; prorogationem hujusmodi in vestris civitatibus et diœcesibus, omnibus quorum interest vel intererit, per vos vel alium seu alios, quamcito comode potueritis publicantes. In cujus rei, etc. Data Londoniis die decimanona Julii, anno Domini Millesimo trecentesimo tricesimo."

The Archbishop's letter resumed.

Volentes igitur, ex obedientiæ debito, hujusmodi mandata apostolica, quatenus ad nos attinet, executioni debitæ demandare ; de vestris etiam fidelitate et circumspectione probata gerentes fiduciam specialem ; ad petendum, exigendum, colligendum, et recipiendum, juxta modum solitum in decima exigenda, a quibuscumque locis et personis ecclesiasticis, exemptis et non exemptis, nostrarum civitatis et diœcesis, præterquam a personis quibus super præstatione hujusmodi in dictis litteris apostolicis immunitas est concessa, decimam omnium reddituum et proventuum ecclesiasticorum quos in dictis nostris civitate et diœcesi [optinent], singulis futuris terminis, tam prorogato quam aliis, in præfatis litteris ad solutionem hujus decimæ faciendam statutis, ac alia faciendi, gerendi, et exercendi, quæ circa præmissa, juxta modum et formam in litteris prædictis expressos, fuerint oportuna, vobis vices nostras commit-

The Subcollector's

commission,

timus, cum cohercionis cujuslibet et censuræ ecclesiasticæ potestate; et vos subcollectorem nostrum, tenore præsentium, deputamus; mandantes, in virtute obedientiæ qua Sedi Apostolicæ tenemini, quatinus prorogationem primi termini hujus solutionis faciendæ jam effluxi, sicut præmittitur, factam, publicare et in communem notitiam deducere omnium quorum interest, cum ea qua poteritis celeritate curetis; ac omnes et singulos viros ecclesiasticos, exemptos et non exemptos, qui ad hujusmodi solutionem decimæ, ratione proventuum et reddituum ecclesiasticorum quos in dictis civitate et diœcesi obtinent, et virtute dictarum litterarum, quomodolibet sunt astricti, moneatis et efficaciter inducatis, ut, in singulis terminis supradictis, medietatem hujus decimæ, juxta vim et effectum litterarum prædictarum, plenarie vobis solvant. In personas vero omnium et singulorum qui, per vos canonice moniti de eadem decima modo quo præmittitur, satisfacere neglexerint, aut defecerint, terminis antedictis seu eorum aliquo, majoris excommunicationis, necnon in capitula, conventus, et collegia, ipsarum civitatis et diœcesis, si negligentiam seu contumaciam contraxerint in hac parte, suspensionis, et in eorum ecclesias et monasteria inderdicti, sententias per vos canonice proferri volumus, ac etiam promulgari, et nichilominus per sequestrationem fructuum, reddituum, et proventuum prædictorum, compelli; absolutionem vero et relaxationem dictarum sententiarum, ac citationem manifeste rebellium in hac parte, si qui fuerint, ad Romanam Curiam, si pertinacia eorum hoc exposcerit, nobis seu nostris commissariis, in hac parte deputandis, specialiter reservantes. Vobis insuper committimus et mandamus, vosque primo, secundo, et tertio præcise et peremptorie monemus, quatenus eandem decimam, cum per vos collecta fuerit, infra octo dies post lapsum cujuslibet termini superius limitati, unacum decima reddituum et proventuum vestrorum

who is authorised to pronounce sentences of excommunication and interdict against persons and corporations who neglect their payments,

the Archbishop reserving to himself the power of absolving such persons and corporations, and of citing those who are pertinaciously rebellious

in hujusmodi terminis persolvenda, nobis, seu illi quem ad illam recipiendam deputaverimus, ad Ecclesiam nostram Christi Cantuariensem, vestro periculo, integraliter et fideliter destinare curetis; ut nos eandem solvere valeamus, prout nobis in litteris injungitur supradictis. Quod si in executione hujus nostri mandati negligentes fueritis aut remissi, majoris excommunicationis sententiam in vos, canonica monitione præmissa, proferimus in hiis scriptis. De die vero receptionis præsentium, et quid feceritis in præmissis, unacum nominibus non solventium, ac vobis manifeste rebellium in hac parte, si qui fuerint, singulis temporibus quibus nobis hujusmodi decimam collectam destinaveritis, certificetis per litteras vestras patentes harum seriem continentes. Data apud Mortelak decimo Kalendas Augusti anno supradicto.

to the Curia.

25 Sept. (1330).

L. 174 *b.*

The Prior sends to the Archbishop, proposing to make a provincial visitation, a copy of the *articles* concerning which former Archbishops have been accustomed to enquire; the schedule containing them not being copied into the register.

316.—[De visitatione Domini Archiepiscopi futura.]

Suo patri. Quia decrevistis vestram provinciam, prout expedit, in proximo visitare, mitto vobis quosdam articulos inspiciendos, super quibus sancti patres prædecessores vestri in visitationibus suis provincialibus solebant inquirere, per gradus singulos visitandorum; quibus inspectis et examinatis, placeat vobis eosdem articulos remittere michi vestro. Prospere valeat vestra paternitas, et feliciter proficiat in agendis. Scriptum Cantuariæ, vij^mo^ kalendas Octobris.

317.—Responsio ad consultationem amici.

(Oct. 1330.)

L. 174 *b.*

The Prior advises the Archbishop to settle a

Suo patri. Inspectis et examinatis privilegiis et aliis litteris apostolicis, ex parte Abbatis et Conventus Sancti Augustini Cantuariæ nuper exhibitis coram vobis, et penes vos copia dimissa, informetis conscien-

dispute (concerning his jurisdiction) with the monks of St. Augustine's, even if he have to yield in some things, rather than appeal to Rome.

tiam vestram in hac parte, secundum Deum et veritatem quæ vos in extremo examine liberabit. Et licet in hujusmodi privilegiis et litteris apostolicis fuerint aliqui defectus, quos vestra paternitas, auctoritate ordinaria vel forsitan metropolitica, seu etiam dignitate legationis, potuerit supplere, vel saltem æquanimiter tollerare, non teneatis viam rigoris, set procedatis per benignitatis semitam, et æquitatis stateram; licet enim justus Dominus justitiam dilexit nunquam tamen deseruit æquitatem. Considerantes quod strepitus judiciales et litigia de supprema Curia Ecclesiæ militantis ambigua, tædiosa, et onerosa incomparabiliter magis sunt quam solebant; quia lites quandoque in dicta curia mortificatæ plerumque respirant, et fiunt sæpius immortales.

(Oct. 1330.) L. 174 *b*.

318.—De Capellano Domini Archiepiscopi.

The Prior sends up a monk of his house to be a resident Chaplain to the Archbishop, and gives him a good personal reco nmendation.

Suo patri. Fratrem Thomam de Godwyneston, Capellanum vestrum, ad vos transmitto, cui si placet, præcipere velitis assignari in hospitio vestro locum suo statui competentem, et necessaria ministrari. Utinam Deo et vobis placabile ministerium faciat sicut vellem, cujus mores et conditiones laudabiles acceptabitis prout spero. Valeat vestra paternitas nunc et semper. Script. Cantuar.

319.—De portione ecclesiæ de Estrya elemosinariæ assignata.

Salutem. Ex litteris vestris, quas nuper recepimus, in varios incidimus cogitatus quo animo contra nos

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3 Nov. 1330. L. 175 *a*.

320.—De Senescallo providendo.

A soun bien ame en Dieu Monsire Johan de Ifeld, Henry Priour del Esglise de Canterbire, saluz, et la

et Ecclesiam nostram, sine culpa vel causa rationabili, talia concipere decrevistis. Dudum siquidem sanctæ recordationis Gregorius Papa x^mus, in Concilio Lugdunensi, singulis ecclesiis et personis ecclesiasticis decimam imposuit sexannalem in subsidium Terræ Sanctæ; tamen a solutione ipsius decimæ quasdam personas excepit. Postea celebris memoriæ Martinus Papa Quartus voluit et mandavit, quod omnia bona ecclesiastica regni Angliæ, Walliæ et Hiberniæ de novo taxarentur, secundum verum valorem, et post hujusmodi taxationem, per litteras apostolicas, specialiter distinxit, ac publice et notorie declaravit, de quibus bonis hujusmodi decima extunc solvi et non solvi deberet. Quas quidem impositionem, taxationem, et declarationem Sedes Apostolica hucusque ratas habuit et acceptas, et eas mandavit ab omnibus et singulis firmiter observari. Unde miramur vestram prudentiam leviter ignorare quæ tam solempniter singulorum auribus inculcantur. Vos igitur latere nolumus, quod de omnibus bonis nostris decimabilibus solvimus decimam ut tenemur, et ea occasione in aliquas censuaras ecclesiasticas non ambigimus incidisse. Immunitatem vero quam habemus de quibusdam decimis non solvendis in dicta declaratione generaliter, specialiter vero coram ipsis quorum interest, horis debitis atque locis ipsam exhibere curabimus, quatenus sanxiones canonicas artabunt. Prospere valeatis, a conceptis nos et Ecclesiam nostram contingentibus cautius desistentes. Datum Cantuariæ, viij° Kalendas Novembris, anno Dni. M°CCC°XXX°.

25 Oct. 1330.

L. 174b.

The Prior querulously accuses the Archbishop of acting in a manner hostile to the Church of Canterbury, through his ignorance of certain historical facts concerning the taxation of benefices for the disme in aid of the Holy Land.

320.

To his well-beloved in God Master John de Ifield, Henry, Prior of the Church of Canterbury, greeting, and

The Prior asks John de Ifeld, the Grand-Steward of the monastery, who proposes to retire, to name a successor to the office, who is able and willing to perform the duties, and who must live near Canterbury.

joye perdurable. Pur ceo qe vous nous avez sovent dit et garny avant ces houres, qe vous ne poetz entremettre a noz busoignes sicome vous solietz faire, sicome bein appiert, et ceo nous poyse; nous vous prioms qe vous nous voillez mander, par le portour de cestez lettres, vostre bone avysement de ascune convenable persone, chivaler ou altre, qi soit demoerante pres de nous, qi puisse, sache, et voille, entremettre de noz busoignes qe apendent a nostre Chief Seneschal, a ordiner et faire sicome vous avez fait avant ces houres; par ceo qe le secle se monstre plus divercement qe unques mes ne soleyt faire, et nomement endroit persones de Saunte Eglise. A Dieu qi vous gard et quant qe a vous apent. Donez a Canterbire le iij^me^ jour de Novembre, lan de grace M^l^CCCXXX^e^.

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13 Dec. 1330.

L. 175 *b*.

321.—De tribus canonicis Sancti Gregorii separatis et ad loca diversa ex certis causis transmissis auctoritate Domini Simonis Archiepiscopi.

A commission, appointed to enquire into some irregularities detected in the Augustinian monastery of St. Gregory, Canterbury, has sentenced one of the Canons to be banished to another House of the same order at

Henricus permissione divina Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis et ceteri collegæ sui in hac parte, in negotio correctionis et reformationis status Monasterii Sancti Gregorii juxta Cantuariam, per venerabilem patrem Dominum Simonem Dei gratia etc., sub certa forma, Commissarii specialiter deputati, religioso viro Domino Priori de Combwell, Cantuariensis diœcesis, salutem in verbo salutari. In negotio prædicto, juxta naturam et qualitatem ejusdem litteræ procedentes, certis ex causis compertis in processu quæ nos juste movebant, Fratrem Robertum de Wenchepe, canonicum Sancti Gregorii antedicti, decrevimus et ordinavimus ad vos et prioratum vestrum fore mittendum; apud vos, sumptibus taxatis dictæ domus Sancti Gregorii, sub obedientia vestra et regulari disciplina, ad beneplacitum Domini nostri prædicti, mo-

enduring joy. Because you have often told and warned us before now that you cannot intervene in our affairs as you have been wont to do, as well appears, and this grieves us; we pray you that you will send us by the bearer of these letters your good counsel as to some proper person, a knight or other, who may be living in our parts, who is able, capable, and willing to intervene in those of our affairs which belong to our High Steward, and to manage them as you have done hitherto; for the age shows itself more changeable than ever it was used to be, and especially for men of Holy Church. God be with you, and keep you and all belonging to you. Given at Canterbury, the 3rd day of November, in the year of grace 1330.

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raturum. Vobis igitur, auctoritate dicti patris, in virtute sanctæ obedientiæ qua eidem patri tenemini, et sub pœna canonica firmiter injungendo, mandamus quatinus dictum Fratrem Robertum ad vos sic missum, sublato cujuscunque dificultatis obstaculo, admittatis apud vos moraturum, secundum formam superius annotatam; rescribentes nobis quantocius cum tenore præsentium quid super hiis duxeritis faciendum. Nos vero Henricus Prior prædictus ad requisitionem dictorum collegarum nostrorum huic mandato sigillum nostrum duximus apponendum. Datum Cantuariæ xiij. die Decembris, anno Dni. Millesimo CCC^mo^XXX^o^.

Combwell, and this notice is given to the Abbot of Combwell in consequence.

322.—Alia littera directa Fratri J. de Merston, Canonico Sancti Gregorii apud Bentele commoranti. 13 Dec. 1330. L. 175 *b*.

Henricus permissione, etc.[1] Fratri J. de Merston Canonico Sancti Gregorii apud Bentele in Londoniensi

Two other Canons of

[1] The preamble of the previous letter is here repeated.

St. Gregory's are sent to the Monastery at Bentley, where they are committed to the care of a third canon already residing there.

diœcesi commoranti, salutem in omnium Salvatore. In negotio prædicto, juxta naturam et qualitatem ejusdem litteræ procedentes, certis ex causis compertis in processu quæ nos juste movebant, Fratres Johannem de Hagh et Adam de Wenchepe, confratres et concanonicos tuos, ad te apud Bentele decrevimus et ordinavimus fore mittendos, ad beneplacitum dicti patris ibidem moraturos, et, de bonis ad dictum Monasterium Sancti Gregorii in dicta diœcesi Londoniensi pertinentibus, una tecum vitæ necessaria sumpturos. Tibi igitur, auctoritate dicti patris, in virtute sanctæ obedientiæ qua eidem patri teneris, et sub pœna canonica firmiter injungendo, mandamus quatinus dictos Fratres Johannem et Adam, ad te sic missos, sublato cujuscunque difficultatis obstaculo, admittatis in caritate fraterna, tecum ibidem moraturos, secundum formam superius annotatam. Et rescribas nobis quid, etc. Nos vero, etc. Dat. ut supra.

13 Dec. 1330.

L. 175 *b*.

323.—Littera directa dictis tribus canonicis quod iter arripiant infra sex dies.

The three banished Canons are ordered to set out for their places of exile within six days, and on their arrival to consider themselves as prisoners.

Nos Henricus permissione, *etc. ut supra*, vobis Fratribus Johanni de Hagh, Roberto et Adæ de Wenchepe, Canonicis Sancti Gregorii mandamus et, in virtute obedientiæ qua dicto patri tenemini districte injungimus, quod infra sex dies, continue ex nunc sequentes continuatis diætis, ad loca vobis assignata, sine ulteriori dilatione, vos transferatis, ad beneplacitum dicti patris moraturos in eisdem. Ita quod vos, nec aliquis vestrum de locis prædictis vobis assignatis recedatis, sine mandato dicti Domini Archiepiscopi speciali. In cujus rei testimonium nos Henricus Prior prædictus, *etc. ut supra*. Datum Cautuariæ, *ut supra*.

324. — Littera directa administratori bonorum Sancti Gregorii pro expensis dictis tribus Canonicis per viam liberandis. 13 Dec. 1330. L. 175 *b.*

Henricus permissione, *etc. ut supra*, discreto viro Domino Henrico Rectori ecclesiæ de Monyngham, administratori bonorum dicti Monasterii Sancti Gregorii, per præfatum patrem deputato, salutem in Auctore salutis. Quia in negotio prædicto, *etc. ut supra*, Fratres Johannem de Hagh, et Adam de Wenchepe, Canonicos dicti Monasterii Sancti Gregorii, apud Bentele Londoniensis diœcesis decrevimus et ordinavimus fore mittendos, ad beneplacitum dicti patris ibidem moraturos, de bonis ad dictum Monasterium Sancti Gregorii in dicta dyœcesi Londoniensi pertinentibus, una cum Fratre Johanne de Merston, Canonico dicti Monasterii Sancti Gregorii, nunc ibidem commorante, vitæ necessaria sumpturos; necnon Fratrem R. de Wenchepe, Canonicum dicti Monasterii Sancti Gregorii, ex certis causis, ad prioratum de Combwelle Cantuariensis diœcesis fore similiter ordinavimus mittendum, ad beneplacitum dicti patris, sumptibus taxatis dictæ Domus Sancti Gregorii, ibidem moraturum; vobis mandamus, firmiter injungentes, quatinus eisdem Fratribus Johanni, Adæ, et Roberto, sumptus pro hujusmodi itinere de bonis dicti Monasterii Sancti Gregorii ministretis. Nos vero Henricus, etc. Datum Cantuariæ, *ut supra*.

The administrator of the goods of St. Gregory's is directed to furnish funds for the journies of the three Canons.

Christmas Eve, 1330. L. 176 *a*.

325.—[De arreragiis pensionis H. de Iddesworth.]

Salutem quam sibi. Super hiis quæ nobis nuper scripsistis mandavimus collectoribus reddituum nostrorum in Londoniis quod, de redditibus nostris prædictis, solvant vobis omnia arreragia annuæ pensionis vestræ; quodque hujusmodi solutionem in proximo compoto suo faciemus sibi plenarie allocari. Dat. etc.

The pension of one of the standing Counsel of the Convent having fallen into arrear, he is told that the Collector of the Convent's rents in London will pay him.

Christmas Eve, 1330.

L. 176 *a*.

326.—[De eodem negotio.]

The Collectors above mentioned are directed to pay the arrears of Iddesworth's pension.

Henricus permissione divina, etc., dilectis sibi in Christo R. de Ely civi Londoniensi, et Willelmo de Dunston Capellano, collectoribus reddituum suorum in Londoniis, salutem et salutis Auctorem. Quia tenemur discreto viro Magistro Henrico de Iddesworth, Officiali Curiæ Cantuariensis, clerico nostro, in septem libris et decem solidis sterlingorum, pro arreragiis annuæ pensionis sibi concessæ; solvatis eidem Magistro Henrico de redditibus nostris prædictis omnia arreragia prædicta; videlicet, pro terminis Nativitatis Sancti Johannis Baptistæ, et Purificationis Beatæ Mariæ anno Domini M°CCC°XXVIIJ°, lx. solidos; et pro eisdem terminis anno Domini M°CCC°XXIX°, lx. solidos; et pro termino Nativitatis Sancti Johannis Baptistæ anno Domini M°CCC°XXX°, xxx. solidos. Et nos hujusmodi solutionem vestram in proximo compoto vestro vobis, sufficientem acquietantiam inde habentibus, faciemus plenarie allocari. Datum Cantuariæ Vigilia Natalis Domini, anno ejusdem MCCCXXX.

Christmas Eve, 1330.

L. 176 *a*.

327.—Littera querulosa Domino Simoni Archiepiscopo, pro errore ministrorum suorum directa.

A letter, notwithstanding its title, less ungracious than usual, addressed by the Chapter to the Archbishop accrediting a messenger sent to rectify some un-

Venerabili in Christo patri, etc. devoti filii Henricus Prior et Capitulum, etc. Licet error facti non habeat auctorem, plerumque tamen error cum non resistitur approbari videtur; vobis igitur, non sicut alicujus erroris auctori vel amatori, sed tanquam patri nostro propitio, per dilectum nobis in Christo Thomam de Medmenham, bajulum præsentium, facundia vivæ vocis, errorem manifestum quorundam ministrorum vestrorum duximus intimare; paternitatem vestram suppliciter exorantes, quatinus eidem Thomæ super præmissis velitis aures credulas accommodare, et hujusmodi errorem

notorium revocare. [Absit autem quod aliquis mercenarius viam lupis apperiat invadendi gregem dominicum curæ vestræ pastoralis regimini commissum.][1] Valeat et prospere vigeat vestra sancta paternitas in Christo. Datum in Capitulo nostro Vigilia Natalis Domini, anno ejusdem M°CCC^mo^XXX°.

specified mistake of one of the Archbishop's officials.

Christmas Eve, 1330.

L. 176 *a*.

328.—[Littera credenciæ brevis.]

Salutem. Credatis Thomæ de Medmenham super hiis quæ ex parte nostra vobis exponet hac vice. Datum Cantuariæ Vigilia Natalis Domini, anno ejusdem M°CCC°XXX°, sub sigillo nostro privato.

A very short credential letter given to the same messenger as in the last case.

329.—De combustione falsorum privilegiorum Sancti Augustini.

Christmas Eve, 1330.

L. 175 *a*.

Salutem quam sibi. Patres antiqui, provide circumspecti, laudabilia gesta sua in scriptis ad perpetuam memoriâm . . . . . consueverunt. Invenimus siquidem in nostris archivis duo scripta, consignata unico sigillo bonæ memoriæ Egidii quondam Ebroycensis Episcopi Normanni,[2] de provincia Rotomagensi, quorum copiam vobis transmittimus inspiciendam, ut magis exquisite diligentius examinetis omnia privilegia coram Domino nostro et vobis apud Cantuariam nuper exhibita, copia privilegiorum penes vos dimissa in capella palatii dicti Patris. Scimus enim quod suggestio, per quosdam Religiosos facta bonæ memoriæ Bonefacio Papæ viij^vo^, in quodam privilegio suo, nullam continet veritatem. Suggestio enim de qua superius scripsi talis

One of the Archbishop's Counsel is referred to ancient records for proof that S. Augustine's Abbey is subject to the ordinary jurisdiction of the Archbishop.

[1] The clause within brackets was contained in the draft, but afterwards cancelled.

[2] See Appendix 22, where the two records here spoken of are copied. The originals have now both lost their seals, although the slits for the tags remain. *Unicum sigillum* in this case means that only one matrix was used, although there was an impression attached to each document.

est: *Bonefacius, etc. Westmonasteriensi, de Waltham, et de Sancto Edmundo Abbatibus, etc. Sane petitio Monasterii Sancti Augustini, nobis exhibita, continebat, quod, licet eorum monasterium a principio fundationis ipsius cum omnibus membris suis existentibus fuit exemptum, per specialia privilegia Sedis Apostolicæ, a jurisdictione qualibet ordinaria, prout evidentius in ipsis privilegiis continetur, etc.* quæ quidem suggestio creditur esse vana; quia Ethelbertus quondam Rex Orientalium Saxonum Angliæ, ad instantiam Beati Augustini primi (Archiepiscopi) Cantuariensis dictum monasterium primo, in honorem Apostolorum Petri et Pauli, fundavit, et ecclesiam ibidem ædificare incepit, et (eam) postmodum Beatus Augustinus consummavit. Deinde Sanctus Laurentius Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, immediatus successor ipsius, in honorem Apostolorum Petri et Pauli et Beati Augustini Anglorum Apostoli, dictam ecclesiam consecravit. Et extunc, per multorum annorum curricula, usque ad tempora sanctæ recordationis Lanfranci, Anselmi, Radulfi, Willelmi, Theobaldi Archiepiscoporum Cantuariensium, omnes electi in Abbates monasterii Sancti Augustini a diversis Archiepiscopis Cantuariensibus confirmati fuerunt, et benedicti, sicut alii abbates Ecclesiæ Cantuariensi subjecti; et professionem et canonicam obedientiam fecerunt eisdem Archiepiscopis, sub certa forma verborum, quam vobis mittimus in cedula præsentibus involuta. Quam quidem formam verborum nuper invenimus in nostris registris, propriis manibus dictorum Abbatum conscriptam; unde liquet manifeste, quod dictum monasterium a principio fundationis ipsius non fuit exemptum ab omni ordinaria jurisdictione. Præmissa communicetis talibus qui prodesse volunt et poterunt, non obesse. Scientes quod Ecclesia quæ nunc dicitur Cantuariensis, tunc temporis vocabatur Ecclesia Dorobernensis. Valete in Christo per suæ matris merita gloriosa. Datum Vigilia Natalis Domini, anno ejusdem M°CCC^mo XXX°.

See Appendix 20, &c.

See Appendix 24*a*.

330.—Certificatio de causa incarcerationis Ricardi atte Notebeame, canonici Sancti Gregorii Cantuariæ. 3 Jan. 1331. L. 176 *a*.

Suo patri, devotus filius id quod possit obedientiæ, reverentiæ, et honoris. Litteras sanctæ paternitatis vestræ collegis meis et michi, pro Ricardo atte Notebeame, Canonico Sancti Gregorii Cantuariæ, in prisona juxta regulares observantias detento, nuper directas reverenter suscepi, summarie continentes: quod nos omnes, vel duo saltem nostrum, ad Prioratum Sancti Gregorii prædictum pariter accedentes, de causa, seu causis, ob quam, seu quas, idem Frater Ricardus in carcerem est detrusus, per viros fidedignos, incarcerato hujusmodi non suspectos, inquireremus seu inquirerent diligentius; et, si causa rationabilis non subsisteret quare debeat in hujusmodi vinculis ac carcere detineri, ipsum faceremus, vel facerent, solita, et religiosis congrua, libertate gaudere. Hujus igitur auctoritate vestri mandati, Magistri H. de Bruyton, Canonicus Ecclesiæ collegiatæ de Wyngeham, et Thomas de Cantuaria, Commissarius vester generalis, in crastino Circumcisionis Domini, ad Monasterium prædictum Sancti Gregorii pariter accedentes, per sacramentum Prioris et omnium Canonicorum, per singula capita separatim examinatorum, concorditer invenerunt: quod dictus Ricardus thesaurariam dicti monasterii noctanter confregit, et bona communia monasterii et amicorum diversorum inibi reposita abstulit, et asportavit, et de hiis apud bonos et graves fuit publice diffamatus; et cum constaret dicto Ricardo, quod hujusmodi facta sua ad Prioris sui et Conventus notitiam pervenissent, in habitu seculari noctanter fugiit,[1] et muros monasterii transivit, et ad locum suspectum declinavit, et, in habitu seculari, ibidem postea comprehensus ad monasterium fuit reductus; demum, pro hiis insolentiis suis

Richard atte Notebeame, a Canon of St. Gregory's, has sued out a kind of *habeas corpus*, in consequence of which the Archbishop names three commissioners charged to ascertain the cause of his imprisonment. Upon examination it is found that he is properly incarcerated.

[1] Sic MS.

notoriis et manifestis, de communi consilio et assensu Prioris et Conventus ejusdem Monasterii, fuit carcerali custodiæ mancipatus. Præmissa seriosius vobis scribo, ut super eisdem beneplacitum vestrum rescribatis cum vobis placuerit. Valeat, etc. Datum Cantuariæ iij. die Januarii, anno Dni. M°CCC^mo°XXX°.

1 Feb. 1331.

L. 176 *b*.

331.—De tribus canonicis Sancti Gregorii Cantuariæ ad diversa loca transmissis pro pœnitentia facienda.

The Canon in charge at Bentley is again directed to provide board and lodging for the banished Canons of St. Gregory's, and to restrain them from rambling, except when looking after the property belonging to the House.

Henricus permissione divina, etc. et ceteri collegæ etc. Fratri J. de Merstone, Canonico Sancti Gregorii Cantuariæ apud Bentele moranti, salutem, etc. Ex certis et rationabilibus causis tibi, sicut alias, vice et auctoritate dicti patris, in virtute sanctæ obedientiæ firmiter injungendo mandamus, quatinus Fratres Johannem de Hagh, et Adam de Wenchepe, confratres et concanonicos tuos, sublato cujuscunque difficultatis obstaculo, admittas in caritate fraterna, tecum apud Bentele moraturos usque ad beneplacitum dicti patris, et de bonis spiritualibus et temporalibus ad Monasterium Sancti Gregorii Cantuariæ spectantibus, et extra diœcesim Cantuariensem in quibuscunque locis existentibus, una tecum vitæ necessaria percepturos, et continuam residentiam inibi facturos; nec permittas, quantum in te est, quod dicti Johannes et Adam, vel aliter ipsorum, extra territorium de Bentele discurrant, nise forte contingat aliquem de vobis, de communi aliorum consensu, apud Wotton declinare, ad supervidendum locum et bona vestra quæ sunt ibidem.[1] Et quia intelleximus quod oratorium sive capella de Bentele, pro defectu cooperturæ et clausturæ, est rui-

[1] Bentley was a small Priory between Harrow and St. Albans. It was here that in 1248, M. Paris tells us, the Prior was smothered by the fall of a wheat-rick, which he was appraising for sale; in fact he was performing the same work as was assigned to these banished Canons, less than a century after his death.

nosa; tibi injungimus et mandamus ex parte dicti patris, quod hujusmodi oratorium sive capellam sine mora faciatis reparari; ita quod tu et fratres tui inibi possint audire et celebrare divina. Et rescribas nobis quamcito commode poteris, qualiter dicti Johannes et Adam ordinationes et injunctiones nostras sibi factas voluerint observare. Nos vero Henricus Prior prædictus: *ut in proximo folio præcedente.* Datum Vigilia Purificationis, anno Dni. M°CCC^mo°XXX°.

p. 337.

332.—[De coadjutore Fratri J. de Merstone assignato.]

1 Feb. 1331.

L. 176*b*.

The Canon in charge at Bentley, enfeebled by age, has a coadjutor appointed to assist him in the management of the property; the coadjutor being one of the exiles from St. Gregory's, who was plainly implicated in the robbing of the treasury of Convent.

Henricus permissione divina, etc. et ceteri collegæ sui, etc. Fratribus J. de Merstone et J. de Hagh, Canonicis Sancti Gregorii Cantuariæ apud Bentele commorantibus, salutem in Domino. Quia intelleximus quod tu, Frater J. de Merstone, propter varia senectutis incommoda, de bonis spiritualibus et temporalibus ad Monasterium Sancti Gregorii Cantuariæ spectantibus, et extra diœcesim Cantuariensem existentibus, solus disponere non potes et utiliter ordinare, prout hactenus solebas; nos, debilitati tuæ pio compatientes affectu, assignavimus tibi in subsidium Fratrem J. de Hagh Concanonicum tuum, ad supervidendum, disponendum, et ordinandum una tecum omnia loca et bona prædicta ad Bentele spectantia, donec aliud mandatum a dicto patre receperis, vel a nobis. Proviso quod tu et dictus Johannes de Hagh, juxta beneplacitum et mandatum dicti patris vel nostri, parati sitis fidele et finale ratiocinium reddere de toto tempore hujusmodi vestræ administrationis. Nos vero Henricus Prior prædictus, etc. Dat. *ut supra.*

14 Feb. 1331.

L. 176 *b*.

333.—Alia littera directa Fratribus J. de Hagh et Adæ de Wenchepe Canonicis pro continua residentia facienda.

In spite of the duty imposed upon the exiled Canons of managing the monastic property, they are blamed for breaking bounds.

Henricus permissione divina etc. et ceteri collegæ sui etc. Fratribus J. de Hagh et A. de Wenchepe, Canonicis, etc. apud Bentele commorantibus, illam quam meruerint salutem. Nostris auribus nuper insonuit relatio fidedigna, quod vos ordinationes et injunctiones nostras, vice et auctoritate dicti patris nuper per litteras nostras vobis factas, contemptibiliter dissimulastis hactenus observare, discurrendo per devia sicut oves non habentes pastorem. Nos igitur hujusmodi vestros vagos

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5 Mar. 1331.

L. 176 *b*.

334.—Littera directa Domino R. de Stangrave Militi pro meremio sibi dando.

The Prior has a good excuse for cancelling a promise to give timber to a person of influence.

Salutz. Pur ceo qe nous avoms entenduz qe nostre gardyen de Orpyngton, par nostre maundement, fuist prest daver livere a vostre serjant le meryn qe nous aveoms ordinez pur vous, a nostre boys de Ocholte, qest assetz pres de vous, et vostre serjaunt respundi a nostre gardyen, qil voilleit mieuz achater al marche meryn pur vous qestre a nostre damage pur tant de meryn, rettez la defaute a vostre dit serjaunt et a nul altre home. Et voillez savoir, qe le poy de meryn qest demorez en noz boys de Longebeche et de Reggesterne ne suffit pas a la sustenaunce de noz mesons et de noz moleyns qe nous avoms en cel pays. Adieu, etc. Donez a Canterbire le v. jour de Martz lan de grace M[l]CCCXXX.

discursus penitus reprobantes, vice et auctoritate dicti patris, vobis iterato, in virtute sanctæ obedientiæ qua tenemini dicto patri, firmiter injungendo, mandamus quod, omissis omnibus hujusmodi vagis discursibus, ad Bentele rediatis,[1] residentiam continuam inibi facientes, sicut, pro salute animarum vestrarum, vobis salubriter est injunctum. Nec extra territorium ejusdem loci de Bentele divertere præsumatis, absque mandato speciali dicti patris vel nostro, sub pœna inobedientiæ pertinacis incurrenda. Nos vero Henricus, etc. *ut supra.* Dat. *ut supra.*

Item: consimilis littera directa Fratri R. de Wenchepe canonico apud Combwelle commoranti.

334.

Greeting. Whereas we have heard that our Warden at Orpington by our order was prepared to have delivered to your servant, the timber which we had assigned to you in our wood at Ockholt, which is very near to you; and your servant answered to our Warden, that he would rather buy timber for you in the ordinary market, than despoil us of so much timber; therefore lay the fault upon your said servant, and upon no other man. And please to know, that the little timber which is remaining in our woods of Longbeach and Reggesterne does not suffice for the maintenance of our houses, and mills which we have in that district. Adieu, &c. Given at Canterbury, the 5th day of March, in the year of grace 1330.

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[1] Sic MS.

8 Mar. 1331.

L. 177 *a*.

335.—De novo procuratorio sigillando de negotio Domini Simonis Archiepiscopi pendente coram Magistro Icherio, Nuntio Domini Papæ, et similiter de Parliamento in quindena Pascha, anno regni Regis Edwardi quinto; et de cruce Eboracensi.

The Prior advises the Archbishop on several matters, but (except in the case of the Archbishop's attendance in Parliament, where the

Suo patri. Super hiis quæ michi pridie mandastis, quo ad procuratorium sigillo meo sigillandum et vobis mittendum, qualitas et quantitas negotii consilium deliberationem et reformationem exigit majorem. Quantum ad parliamentum in quindena Pascha, quatenus crucem Eboracensem concernit, in registris prædecessorum vestrorum plenius continetur qualiter in casu consimili processerunt. Verumptamen quia conciliis generalibus et provincialibus, et similiter parliamentis generalibus regum et principum secularium, pro utilitate rei publicæ tractandis et ordinandis,[1]

(1330.) Cart. Ant. 1294 *e*.

336.—Consilium Domini J. de Ifeld de terra empta apud la Cnolle.

J. de Ifeld, Seneschal of the manors of the Convent, gives advice as to the form of conveyance of a piece of wood-(land) purchased by the Prior.

Honours sire ove totes reverences. Sire, la chartre qe Jakes de Etchyngham deit fere a cely qe deit estre feffe du boys qe vous avez bargene de luy, voyez qil eit leyns clause de garante, et qil luy face un reles et quiteclamaunce, de plu tardi de date ij. jours ou treis qe la chartre ne soit. Et, Sire, qil vous face une lettre, qil vous ad relesse a touz jours, et a Daunz Emon, et a touz les autres qe sount nome en le bref, tute manere actions, quereles, et demandes, les queux il put avier de vous, ou nul de vous, de chescun manere de trespas quel qil seit, du comensement du secle taunqe ala fesaunce de la lettre; quar, Sire,

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[1] *tractaturis et ordinaturis?*

omnes et singuli quorum interest, specialiter vocati per se vel per alios, interesse tenentur, videtur quod instanti parliamento, per vos vel per alios sufficientes, tenemini interesse; protestaturi, quod, præsente Archiepiscopo Eboracensi cruce sua erecta in vestra provincia, quibuscunque negotiis in instanti parliamento tractandis et ordinandis, quatenus vos attinent, nullatenus consentitis. Expedit etiam, ut videtur, excitare et monere omnes et singulos suffraganeos vestros, sub pœna et periculo professionis suæ, vobis et prædecessoribus vestris et Ecclesiæ vestræ Cantuariensi factæ, ne contra jura et libertates Ecclesiæ vestræ prædictæ, quæ defendere, retinere, et conservare, ut præmittitur, obligantur, aliquid attemptent vel consentiant attemptari. Valeat, etc. Data Cantuariæ viij° die Martii.

Archbishop of York will be present with his cross before him) the subjects are only alluded to so slightly as to be incomprehensible.

336.

Sire, honours with all manner of reverences. Sire, as to the deed that James of Etchingham must execute to him who is to be enfeoffed in the wood which you have agreed to purchase from him, see that there is therein a clause of warranty, and that he executes a release and quitclaim, of a date not later than two days or three after that of the deed. And, Sire, let him give you a letter (declaring) that he has released you for ever (and Dom. Emon and all the others who are named in the writ) from all manner of actions, quarrels, and demands, which he might have against you, or any of you, on account of any manner of trespass, whatever it may be, from the beginning of the world down to the date of the making of the letter; for, Sire, as he now

comonte qil sesse ore de son bref qil porte devor vous et fesse un autre de son boys, il poreit aver action en temps apres del trespas avaunt fet. Et pur ceo, Sire, bon est destre avise avaunt meyn. Mes, Sire, jeo espeir qil ne le fra mye, mes bon est touz jours destre sur. A Deu, cher Sire, qe vous doyne bone vie et bone saunte et longs.

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10 Mar. (1331).

L. 177 *a*.

337.—Littera directa Episcopo Roffensi pro monachis ordinandis.

The Bishop of Rochester is asked to ordain Canterbury monks, the Archbishop being

Suo patri devotus filius seipsum totaliter cum omni reverentia et honore. Quia venerabilis pater Dominus noster Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, pro visitatione sua provinciali, ad partes se transtulit remotas, quominus hiis diebus in sua diœcesi potest ordines celebrare; paternitatem vestram rogamus, quod certificetis nos, per bajulum præsentium, si placeat vobis die

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10 Mar. 1331.

L. 177 *a*.

338.—Littera directa Domino Johanni Launge pro vinis nostris Franciæ.

The French agent is still in arrear with the price of the wine of St. Thomas, and is asked to pay his balance into the Parisian

Salutz. Pur ceo qe nous avoms bien entendu qe vous, par la grant devocionn qe vous avez devers Saint Thomas, vous[1] avez travoille et receu la value de noz vins en France pur le temps passe, qe sont especialement donez au dit Saint Thomas; nous vous prioms, qe quantqe vous avez receu de noz ditz vins del temps passe facez paier as Marchantz de la Compeignie de Barde, qe sont demoerantz a Parys, et prenez acquitaunce de eux, de tantz deners paiez as eux pur nous desques a un certein terme. Et voillez

[1] This redundant *vous* is in the MS.

might now withdraw from the writ which he directs against you, and might make another for his wood, he could in the future, have ground of action for trespass previously done. And therefore, Sire, it is expedient to be aware beforehand. But, Sire, I hope that he will by no means do this, yet it is always good to be sure. God be with you, dear Sire, and give you good life and good health, long to endure.

Sabbati proximo sequente, in vestra civitate vel diœcesi seu extra, ordines celebrare; et si sic, significetis nobis, si placet, locum certum per præsentium portitorem; quia habemus quosdam fratres ad diversos ordines promovendos, et magis volunt per sacrarum manuum vestrarum impositionem fratres hujusmodi ordinari, quam per alios sacramenta ecclesiastica tractantes manibus tortuosis. Valeat et vigeat vestra paternitas in prosperitate felici. Dat. Cantuar. x^mo die Martii.

absent in his provincial visitation.

338.

Greeting. Because we have well understood that you, through the great devotion which you have towards Saint Thomas, have laboured at, and received the value of our wines in France, for the time past, which are especially dedicated to Saint Thomas, we pray you that all that you have received for our said wines for times past, you cause to be paid to the merchants of the Company of the Bardi, who are established in Paris, and take a receipt from them for so much money paid to them for us, payable at a fixed term. And please to learn that we have the letters sealed with the seals of our Lord the King of England, and of the Queen his consort, and of

bank, taking in return a bill of exchange payable at a certain term. The Queens Isabella and Philippa have both written to the King of France asking him to pay the Convent the price of the wine which was withheld during the wars.

savoir qe nous avoms les lettres sealles de seal de nostre Seignur le Roy Dengleterre, et de la Roine sa compeigne, et de la Roine sa miere, au Roy de France, qe il nous face paier les arrerages de les vins Saint Thomas qe sont unqore arere; mes nous retendrons les lettres devers nous tantque nous saveroms vostre volonte endroit de cestes choses. A Dieu, qi vous gard et qant qe a vous apent. Donez a Canterbire, le x^m^ jour de Martz, lan de grace M^l^CCCXXX.

339. — LITTERA DIRECTA CONSTABULARIO CASTRI DOVORIÆ CUSTODI QUINQUE PORTUUM DE LIBERTATIBUS ET CARTIS COMMUNITATI MARISCI DE ROMENAL CONCESSIS INVIOLABILITER OBSERVANDIS.

21 Mar. 1331.

L. 177 *b*. The Prior appeals to the Lord Warden requesting him, as he values his own profit and that of his tenants, that he will enforce the law, as interpreted by specially appointed judges, against those who are guilty of infractions of the customs of Romney Marsh.

A son trescher et bien ame en Dieu Monsire W. de Clynton, Conestable du chastel de Dovore, Gardien de Cink Portz, Henry Priour del Esglise de Canterbire, saluz, et saunte de corps et dalme. Pur ceo qe ascune gent de la Comminalte de la Ville de Romene, ensemblement ovesqes altres desconuz aherdantz a eaux, unt fait grantz damages a les seignurages, et a toute la Comminalte del Mareys de Romene; les ditz seignurages et la Comminalte del Mareys de Romene monstrerent a nostre Seignur le Roy et a son conseil, au drein parlement, les grevaunces et les damages qe les dites gentz de la Ville de Romene et altres unt fait a eaux. Et sur ceo ordine fuist et acorde, qe certeins Justices fuissent assignez par nostre Seignur le Roy a oyer et terminer les quereles, grevaunces, et les damages de ditz seignurages et de la Comminalte de dit Mareys de Romene. Et pur ceo nous vous prioms qe, par encheson de la Gard de Cink Portz, ne voillez mye disturber vostre profist demeigne, et de voz tenauntz, et des altres seignurages, et de toute la Comminalte de dit Mareys de Romene; ne rien faire, ne suffrer qe

the Queen his mother, (addressed) to the King of France (asking) that he will cause the arrears of the Wines of Saint Thomas which are still behindhand, to be paid to us; but we shall retain these letters with us, until we hear your wishes in these things. God be with you, and keep you and all belonging to you. Given at Canterbury, the 10th day of March, in the year of grace 1330.

339.

To his very dear and well-beloved in God, Sir W. de Clynton, Constable of Dover Castle, Warden of the Cinque Ports, Henry, Prior of the Church of Canterbury, greeting, and health of body and soul. Whereas some persons of the commonalty of the Town of Romney, together with others unknown, adhering to them, have done great damage to the proprietors and all the community of Romney Marsh; the said proprietors and the community of Romney Marsh showed to our Lord the King, and to his Council in the last Parliament, the grievances and damages which the said persons of the Town of Romney and others have done to them. And hereupon it was decreed and agreed, that certain justices should be assigned by our Lord the King to hear and end the complaints, grievances, and damages of the said proprietors and of the community of the said Romney Marsh. And therefore we pray you, that, in your quality of the Warden of the Cinque Ports, you will not hinder your own profit and that of your tenants, and of the other proprietors, and of all the Community of the said Romney Marsh; nor do anything, nor permit anything to be done contrary to the charters and the franchises which the

soit fait, contre les chartres et les franchises qy les auncestres nostre Seignur le Roy qore est unt grantez as ditz seinurages et a toute la Comminalte de dit Mareys de Romene. A Dieu qe vous gard et quantqe a vous apent. Donz a Canterbire le jour Saint Benoit, lan quint de regne le Roy Edward tiers apres le conquest.

(Mar. 1331.)
L. 177 *a*.

340.—Petitio in Parliamento pro generalibus attornatis.

The King, at the Prior's request, has given him licence to appoint attornies to act for him in all cases; the licence to remain in force until Midsummer of the current year. The Prior now asks for an extension of time.

Pur ceo qe nostre Seignur le Roy ad grante a son Chapellein Henry Priour del Esglise de Canterbire qe, pur son grant age et nounpoer de corps, puisse faire generals attornes en toutz pleez, en sa court et aillours en son realme, desques a la feste de la Nativite Saint Johan proschein avener, sicome en les lettres nostre Seignur le Roy plus pleignement est contenuz; prie a nostre Seignur le Roy son dit Chapellein Henry, qe luy plese, de sa grace especiale, granter a luy plus long terme solom ceo qe luy plerra, pur ceo qil est ore de plus grant age, et meins puist tra(*vailler*).

(Mar. 1331.)
L. 177 *b*.

341.—Littera Episcopo Roffensi directa pro monachis Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis ad ordines præsentandis.

The Prior, asks the Bishop of Rochester to ordain some Canterbury monks.

Venerabili in Christo patri Domino H(aymoni) Dei gratia Roffensi Episcopo, suus devotus Henricus permissione ejusdem Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, cum omni reverentia et honore, salutem. Fratres nostros quorum nomina in cedula præsentibus involuta ad certos ordines promovendos vobis duximus præsen-

ancestors of our Lord the King who now is have granted to the said proprietors, and to all the Community of the said Romney Marsh. God be with you, and keep you and all belonging to you. Given at Canterbury on the Day of Saint Benedict, in the 5th year of the reign of King Edward the Third after the conquest.

340.

Whereas our Lord the king has granted to his chaplain Henry, the Prior of the Church of Canterbury that, on account of his great age, and infirmity of body, he may create general attornies in all pleas in his court(s) and elsewhere in his realm, up to the Feast of the Nativity of Saint John next coming, as is more fully contained in the letters of our Lord the king; his said chaplain Henry prays our Lord the king, that it may please him of his especial grace to grant him a longer term, such as may please him, for now he is of still greater age and is less able to act.

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tare. Placeat paternitati vestræ in instanti festo quatuor temporum, Vigilia Trinitatis vel instanti Sabbato quo cantatur officium *Sitientes*, per sacrarum manuum vestrarum impositionem, ad hujusmodi ordines promovere, juxta formam litterarum dimissoriarum venerabilis patris Domini Simonis Dei gratia, etc. quas vobis mittimus inspiciendas et nobis si placet per copiam remittendas. Valeat et prospere vigeat vestra paternitas in Christo. Dat. etc.

(Mar. 1331.)

L. 177 *b*.

342.—Littera Domini Commissari Cantuariensis ad citandum illos coram eo qui imponunt manus violentas in servientes Domini Prioris facientes officia sua.

Three persons have assaulted the bailiff of the Convent's estate at Mongeham, thus rendering themselves subject to a sentence of the greater excommunication. By this mandate the Commissary directs the (Rural) Dean of Sandwich to cite the culprits to appear at the Octave.

Thomas de Cantuaria, reverendi patris Domini Simonis Dei gratia Cantuariensis Archiepiscopi, totius Angliæ Primatis, in hac parte Commissarius specialis, discreto viro Decano de Sandwyco, salutem in Auctore salutis. Ex parte religiosorum virorum Dominorum Prioris et Capituli Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, querelam gravem recepimus, continentem quod, licet Martyr gloriosus bonæ memoriæ Thomas quondam Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, ac sui successores Cantuarienses Archiepiscopi, venerabilisque pater Dominus Simo Dei gratia Archiepiscopus supradictus, majoris excommunicationis sententia innodaverint omnes et singulos qui jura et libertates Ecclesiæ suæ prædictæ infringere, bona etiam, seu res ipsius Ecclesiæ, invadere, occupare, seu detinere præsumpserint quovismodo; quidam tamen Johannes Wildebeof, Willelmus Deakne, et Rogerius de Langedon, suæ salutis immemores, jura et libertates ipsius Ecclesiæ, ad ipsam apud Monyngham pertinentia, infringere, ac bona ipsius Ecclesiæ alias invadere ne-

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Jan. 1332.

L. 15 *b*.

343.—Littera directa H. de Chikewelle de consilio habendo pro vinis providendis.

The Prior explaining that he is newly appointed, and not at all expert in housekeeping, asks a London citizen to

A son bien amy H. de Chikewell burgeys de Loundres, le soen Richard par la soeffraunce de Dieu Priour etc., salutz, et la joye pardurable. Pur ceo qe le secle est malveys, et la grant defaute des bleds est cheu en nostre temps, et sumes meismes novel homme et poy avoms entremys de hosebounderye, sicom bien savetz; vous prioms chierment, qe vous nous voillez estre aidant et conseillant coment nous puissoms

quiter præsumpserunt, in Alexandrum etiam le Crek clericum, dictorum religiosorum servientem ad exequendum jura et libertates dictæ Ecclesiæ ab ipsis religiosis deputatum, officium suum in ea parte exequentem, manus injecerunt temere violentas, propter quod non est dubium præfatos Johannem, Willelmum, et Rogerium, sententias excommunicationis majoris, tam a dictis patribus quam a canone provide latas, dampnabiliter incurrisse, in animarum suarum grave periculum, dictorumque religiosorum, et Ecclesiæ suæ prædictæ, ac ipsius clerici, præjudicium, dampnum non modicum, et gravamen; quocirca vobis in virtute obedientiæ injungimus et mandamus, quatinus dictos Johannem, Willelmum, et Rogerium, citetis, seu citari faciatis, peremptorie, quod compareant coram nobis in Ecclesia Christi Cantuariensi proximo die juridico post Octabas Sancti Martini, canonicum si quod habeant, in forma juris proposituri quare dictas sententias ipsos incurrisse non debeat pronuntiari; necnon quibusdam articulis, sibi ex officio faciendis in hac parte, responsuri; et de veritate dicenda personaliter juraturi; facturi ulterius et recepturi quod justitia suadebit. Et quid in præmissis feceritis nos dictis die et loco certificetiis per litteras vestras patentes, etc. Dat. etc.

of (the Translation of?) St. Martin to answer the charges to be then made against them.

343.

To his well-beloved H. of Chigwell, Citizen of London, his friend Richard, &c. greeting, &c. Whereas the season is a bad one, and a great failure in the crops has happened in these days, and as we ourselves are but a beginner and but little instructed in husbandry, as well you know, we earnestly pray you that you will help us and advise us as to the best way of procuring wine, so that we may avoid discredit at our first assuming

advise him about buying wine. Should he send to Bordeaux? Or would it be better to buy wine already arrived in London or Sandwich? If he have no wine, being newly elected, it would be a scandal to the Convent.

meuz faire chevisaunce des vins, pur estopper esclaundre en nostre novealte, issint qe nostre Covent par defaute de nostre governement ne ayt defaute. Et qe vous nous voillez maunder, par le portour de cestez, sil y soit nul marchant de Garscoyne en la ville qi ait neef, qi, a son peril, voile aler en Garscoyne pur iiij^{xx}. tonealx a nostre oeps; ou si vous puissez faire achatier vins a Loundres, et carier les a Faversham ou a Fordwyz; ou si yfait[1] dentendre[2] si laa qe vins vienent de Garscoyne a Sandwyz, et la sont ils moult chers. Sur toutz ces pointz nous voillez maunder vostre avisement, auxitost com vous purrez, et vostre estat; kar nous esperoms qe, par laide de Dieu et le vostre, nostre estat serra le meuz releve. A Dieu, etc.[3]

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22 Mar. 1332.

L. 190 *b*.

344.—LITTERA DE LICENTIA CONCESSA MONACHIS STUDENTIBUS IN UNIVERSITATE OXONIÆ, QUOD IPSI POSSUNT CELEBRARE DIVINA INFRA DOMUM QUAM INHABITANT IN EADEM VILLA.

The Bishop of Lincoln licences the oratory attached to the Hall hired by Christchurch for the habitation of the Canterbury monks studying in Oxford.

Henricus permissione divina Lyncolniensis Episcopus, dilectis nobis in Christo monachis Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis in Universitate Oxoniæ studentibus, nostræ diœcesis, salutem, gratiam, et benedictionem. Devotionem vestram quam ad cultum divinum habere vos credimus attendentes; ut per quadriennium, a die confectionis præsentium continue numerandum, in oratorio infra mansum quem in dicta Universitate, causa studii, inhabitatis erecto, celebrare, seu celebrari facere, valeatis; dum tamen, simpliciter sine nota, et idem oratorium decens fuerit et honestum, nullumque per hoc parochiali ecclesiæ in cujus parochia situs fuerit idem mansus præjudicium immineat seu jactura,

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[1] *yfaut.*

[2] faut *attendre,*

[3] This and the following letter, displaced in the register, should come in their places later on.

office, and so that our Convent by our ignorance may not incur blame. And we pray you that you will send word by the bearer if there be any Gascon merchant in your city, who, having a ship, would be willing to go over into Gascony to fetch four score butts of wine for our use at his own risk; or if you can buy wines in London and ship them to Faversham or Fordwich; or if it would be better to wait until wines come from Gascony to Sandwich, though there the wines are very dear. On all these points please to send us your opinion as soon as you can, and news of your health; for we hope that, with God's help and yours, our dignity shall be the more exalted.

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licentiam, quantum in nobis est, tenore præsentium, vobis concedimus specialem. Datum apud Vetus Templum Londoniæ xj. Kalendas Aprilis anno Domini M°CCC°XXXJ°.

345.—Responsio facta Suppriori de remedio futuræ sterilitati præcavendo. (April (?) 1331.)

L. 8 *a*.

The Archbishop (?) writes to approve of some suggestions made to him by the Sub-Prior, with a view to providing against a probable dearth.

Salutem quam sibi. Pro sano consilio vestro vobis grates referimus. Per litteras vestras videtur nobis necessarium, utile, et expediens, providentiam et remedium adhibere, contra fames et oppressuras, prout nobis nuper scripsistis, præcavendo. Et ideo præcipiemus Thesaurariis nostris quod, cum omni celeritate qua poterunt, emant secretius ordeum ad faciendum brasium pro anno futuro. Ista vobis scribimus, sperantes quod, mediante prudentia vestra, sic ordinabimus pro utilitate communi, quod terram Egipti cum filiis Jacobi pro victualibus emendis, non indigebimus

introire. Valete cum Christo, et Josep qui discrete et gratiose præordinavit remedium contra futuram sterilitatem. Dat., etc.[1]

13 April 1331.

L. 7 *b*.

346.—Littera directa Domino Suppriori ad præmuniendum Conventum de futuro Priore eligendo.

The Archbishop gives notice that he will attend in the Chapter House on a certain day to preside at the election of a Prior to fill the vacancy.

Symon permissione divina, etc. dilecto filio Suppriori Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, salutem, gratiam, et benedictionem. Cum dictæ ecclesiæ prioratus, per obitum bonæ memoriæ Fratris Henrici nuper Prioris ejusdem, vacet ad præsens; volentes pericula quæ diutina vacatio inducere consuevit pro viribus præcavere, ad subrogationem novi Prioris ibidem celerius faciendam, hac instanti die Martis post datam præsentium proxime secutura, in domo vestra capitulari Cantuariensi, per nos seu Commissarium nostrum legi-

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1 May 1331.

L. 6 *a*.

347.—Littera directa Thomæ de Medmynhamme, ad perquirendum remedium pro districtionibus factis in manerio nostro de Wodeton.

The Prior unjustly distrained for money alleged to be due to the Exchequer, requires his counsel to apply for relief.

Salutz. Sachetz qe nous sumes grevousement destreint par Robert de Grofhurst, Baillif pur Lercevesqe de South Mallyng, en nostre manoir de Wodeton, par maundement le Viscounte de Surria et de Sussexia, pur dettes qi courent de sus nous en Pipe, sicome est contenuz en une bile dedeinz cestez enclose. Pur quey nous vous maundons, qe hastivement sur ceo purchacez remedie; kar nous entendons certeignement qe la dette est paye, et en Leschekier nostre Seignur le Roi pleinement allowez. A Dieu. Donez a Canterbire le premier jour de May.

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[1] It is probable that this letter belongs to the short interval which followed the death of Prior Eastry 8th (April,) and preceded the election of Prior Oxenden (25 April). It is addressed to the Subprior, from which it may be inferred that at the date there was no Prior living.

timum procedere intendimus, Domino annuente. Quocirca vobis committimus et mandamus, quatinus omnes et singulos nostros commonachos et confratres dictæ Ecclesiæ, qui debent et possunt hujusmodi negotio interesse, præmuniatis seu præmuniri peremptorie faciatis quod dictis die et loco, coram nobis seu nostro Commissario hujusmodi, se præsentent, facturos et recepturos quod, juxta morem præteriti temporis, negotium hujusmodi exiget et requiret. Vos etiam die et loco prædictis vestram similiter studeatis præsentiam exhibere, certificantes nos vel nostrum Commissarium tunc ibidem quid in præmissis feceritis et duxeritis faciendum, cum nominibus illorum, qui ut præmittitur fuerint præmuniti, in quadam cedula vestro certificatorio hujusmodi annectanda, conscriptis, per vestras patentes litteras, harum seriem continentes. Dat. apud Mortelak Idibus Aprilis, anno Dni. M°CCC^mo°XXXJ°, et consecrationis nostræ tertio.

caused by the death of Henry of Eastry.

347.

Greeting. Take notice that we are grievously levied upon in our manor of Wootton by Robert de Grofhurst the Archbishop's Bailiff at South Malling, by a precept from the Sheriff of Surrey and Sussex, for debts which are charged against us in the Office of the Pipe, as is expressed in a schedule enclosed herein. Therefore we require you to procure speedy remedy, for we know for certain that the debt has been paid, and duly credited in the King's Exchequer. Given at Canterbury the first day of May.

(May 1331.)

L. 7 *a*.

The Bishop of Rochester is asked to confer holy orders on Canterbury monks, the Archbishop being absent in his provincial visitation.

348.—Littera directa Roffensi Episcopo pro monachis ordinandis.

Suo patri devotus filius, seipsum totaliter cum omni reverentia et honore. Quia venerabilis pater noster Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, pro visitatione sua provinciali ad partes se transtulit remotas, quominus hiis diebus in sua diœcesi potest ordines celebrare, paternitatem vestram rogamus quod . . . . etc. (*ut supra, p.* 350).

349.—Littera invitatoria ad prandium directa diversis amicis quando R. Prior celebravit primam missam suam sollempnem.

(May 1331.)

L. 7 *a*.

Prior Oxenden

Salutem. Nos, vita comite, die Ascensionis Domini proximo futuro, primam missam nostram sollempnem

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22 May (1331).

L. 7 *a*.

The Sub-Constable of Dover Castle is asked to delay the trial of some of the tenants of Mongeham accused of a trespass; unless, for the Prior's sake he is willing to overlook the trespass altogether.

351.—Littera directa S. de Easole, Subconstabulario Castri Dovoriæ pro tenentibus nostris attachiatis.

A son trescher et bien ame en Dieu Estevene de Easole, Richard par la suffraunce Dieu Priour del Esglise de Canterbire, salutz et saunte de corps et dalme. Nous vous prioms, pur lamour de nous, qe noz tenauntz de Monyngham, qont affair devant vous ore cesty Samady proschein avener, a la porte du Chastel de Douvre, pur ascun trespas qe eux deussent aver fait countre voz ministres, qe vous le voillez suffrer en respist si laa qe nous eyoms entreparlez pur ascune choses qe nous touchent et nostre Esglise, de quey nous ne sumes pas uncore de tout avisez; sil ne pleust a vous a ceste foith ceux trespas a noz tenaunts pardoner pur lamour de nous. A Dieu, qe vous gard corps et alme, et qantqe a vous apent. Donez a Canterbire le xxij^{m} jour de May.

in ecclesia nostra Cantuariensi celebrare proponimus, et, ut ipsa sollempnius perficiatur, vos affectuose rogamus quatinus placeat vobis, eodem die tam mensæ quam missæ, cum aliis amicis nostris interesse, ut, per vestram placitam præsentiam, nostræ consolationis jocunditas feliciter augeatur. Valete, etc. Dat., etc.

invites a friend to dine on the day of the celebration of his first mass.

350.—[Consimilis littera Gallicè.]

Salutz et la joye perdurable. Pur ceo qe nous entendoms, ore a ceste feste del Ascencion Nostre Seignur proschein avener, al aide Dieu, chaunter nostre sollempne masse en nostre esglise de Canterbire, vous prioms cherement qe, pur le honur de nous et nostre amour, voillez a meisme cele masse estre, et porter compeignie et solas a nous amaunger. A Dieu, etc. Donez, etc.

A translation of the above into French for the use of the laity.

351.

To his very dear and well-beloved in God Stephen de Easole, Richard &c. greeting, and health of body and soul. We beseech you, for love of us, that in the business of our tenants who have to do with you on this next Saturday at the gate of Dover Castle, on the matter of a certain offence, which it seems they have committed against your officials, you will allow it to lie over until such time as we have discussed certain matters which concern us and our Church, concerning which we are not at present well informed—unless indeed for this once, for love of us, you forgive our tenants this offence.

June 1331. L. 7 *a*. Commission of a warrener and woodreeve for the Convent, with jurisdiction in cases of trespass.

352.—Commissio de garrenna nostra custodienda.

Universis pateat per præsentes quod nos R(icardus) permissione, etc., Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, assignavimus dilectum nobis in Christo A. de B., ad custodiendum totam garrennam nostram in omnibus maneriis nostris in comitatu Kanciæ; ac etiam ad supervidendum omnes boscos nostros et nemora in eodem comitatu; necnon de transgressoribus, per sacramentum proborum et legalium hominum, inquirendum, et facere attachiamenta pro transgressionibus in dicta garrenna nostra qualitercunque factis, quæ ad garrennam prædictam, in boscis et nemoribus nostris pro garrenna pertinent, secundum consuetudinem regni Angliæ; et ad omnia alia facienda et exequenda quæ officio custodie garrenne nostræ prædictæ rite incumbunt; rata habituri ea quæ idem A., nomine nostro et Ecclesiæ nostræ, juste et rationabiliter fecerit in præmissis; finibus et amerciamentis inde qualitercunque provenientibus, ac etiam venatione nostra in parcis nostris de Westwelles et Magna Chart, semper nobis salvis. In cujus rei testimonium, etc.

(June 1331.) L. 7 *b*. The tenants are required to furnish the new Prior with a palfrey, according to an ancient custom, whose existence is proved by searching the ancient registers of the Convent.

353.—Littera directa Ballivis pro palfredo Domini Prioris levando.

Salutem. Quia invenimus in registris nostris, quod quilibet Prior Cantuariensis Ecclesiæ, post mortem prædecessoris sui, habuit de quolibet manerio totius prioratus, de consuetudine approbata, auxilium ad unum palfredum in novitate sua; et quia scribitur: "mitte sapientem et nichil ei dicas," copiam hujusmodi registri, sine taxatione aliqua, vobis transmittimus præsentibus involutam; mandantes quatinus, in proxima Curia nostra tenenda in ballivia vestra, ad dictum palfredum levandum homines et tenentes nostros, ut melius vobis videbitur expedire, coherceatis, et ista non omittatis. Dat., etc.

354.—DECRETUM ET DIFFINITIVA SENTENTIA PRÆSIDENTE PRONUNTIANDA, ET IN CAPITULO PUBLICANDA, CONTRA PERTINACITER INOBEDIENTES ET FINALITER INCORRIGIBILES ET OBSTINATOS. May (1331). L. 6 *a*.

Sentence pronounced in the Chapter on a monk found guilty of the *vitium proprietatis*—the crime of accumulating private property, contrary to his vow of voluntary poverty.

Quia A. de B. nuper monitus fuerit, sub certis pœnis, quod, infra terminum sibi præfixum, faceret aliqua infra cedulam contenta, quæ hactenus plenarie facere non curavit, propter quod incidit in pœnas prædictas. Ideo, die Mercurii, videlicet, xj^mo^ Kalendas, etc., dictus A. de B. monitus fuit, sicut prius, quod de tanto argento in denariis quos deposuit, dimisit, et tradidit, custodiendos diversis hominibus, sine licentia, consilio, et assensu, Prioris et Conventus, infra tres dies continue sequentes solveret C. de D. tantum argentum in denariis, in quibus dictus A. de B. sibi tenebatur, et residuum dicti argenti solveret aliis creditoribus, sub pœna *proprietatis*, si hujusmodi monitionibus sibi factis non pareret, incurrenda. Et quia hujusmodi monitionibus sibi factis parere contempsit, incidit in pœnas prædictas. Et ideo, die Sabbati, videlicet, viij^vo^ Kalendas, etc., proxime sequente dictum diem Mercurii, idem A. de B. monitus fuit sicut prius, quod totam pecuniam numeratam, et omnia alia bona sua quæ habuit in auro vel argento, necnon omnes obligationes et tallias, munimenta et instrumenta, vadia et pignora, quæ habuit, a quibuscunque personis, ex quacunque causa vel colore, de quibuscunque bonis eisdem hominibus venditis, vel ad mutuum traditis, vel penes eosdem depositis vel dimissis, infra tres dies sequentes fideliter et integre Priori traderet et liberaret, sub pœna separationis a communione fratrum incurrenda, si hujusmodi monitionibus non pareret.

(1331.)

L. 6 *b*.

Monitions addressed to a monk suspected of the *vitium proprietatis*. He is required to give a minute account of all his transactions.

355.—Diversæ monitiones.

In Dei nomine amen. Licet te, A. de B., sæpius et canonice monuerimus, in virtute sanctæ obedientiæ, quod infra certum tempus jam elapsum, traderes nobis fideliter in scriptis, distincte et aperte, nomina illorum cujuscunque conditionis, ordinis, status, vel sexus existerent, quibus tu teneris, in aliqua summa pecuniæ vel bonis aliis quibuscunque, et similiter, summam et veram quantitatem eorundem bonorum, et certam causam, ex qua causa vel colore, tu teneris ipsis in aliqua summa pecuniæ vel bonis aliis quibuscunque.

Item: Quod, infra idem tempus, traderes nobis fideliter in scriptis nomina omnium illorum, cujuscunque conditionis, ordinis, status, vel sexus existerent, qui tibi tenebantur in aliqua summa pecuniæ, et similiter summam et veram quantitatem eorundem bonorum, necnon certam causam, ex qua causa vel colore, ipsi tenebantur tibi in aliqua summa pecuniæ vel bonis aliis quibuscunque, sub pœna inobedientiæ et majoris excommunicationis sententia incurrenda, si monitionibus nostris hujusmodi non pareres.

Item: Quod de tanta pecunia quam deposuisti, dimisisti, et tradidisti custodienda diversis personis, sine licentia, consilio, et assensu nostro et Conventus, infra certum tempus, jam elapsum, solveres C. de D. tantam pecuniam in qua tu sibi tenebaris pro Conventu, prout fatebaris, et residuum dictæ pecuniæ solveres aliis creditoribus tuis, sub pœna *proprietatis* incurrenda, si hujusmodi monitionibus nostris tibi factis non pareres.

Item: Quod totam pecuniam, et monetam, et omnia alia bona quæ habes in auro vel argento, necnon omnes obligationes et tallias, scripta et instrumenta, vadia et pignora, et alia quæcunque munimenta et cautiones, quæ et quas habes, a quibuscunque personis,

ex quacunque causa vel colore de quibuscunque personis,[1] eisdem personis venditis, præstitis, vel ad mutuum traditis, seu penes easdem personas depositis vel dimissis, infra certum tempus, jam elapsum, fideliter et integre nobis liberares et traderes, sub pœna separationis a communione fratrum incurrenda, si monitionibus nostris hujusmodi non pareres.

Quia, tamen, hujusmodi monitionibus nostris canonicis tibi factis parere hactenus contempsisti; nos, officii nostri debitum exequi, et animæ tuæ salutem volentes prospicere, ut tenemur, pronuntiamus te pertinaciter inobedientem et *proprietarium* notorium, et, pro hiis causis, demeritis tuis exigentibus, in majoris excommunicationis sententiam dampnabiliter incidisse. Et ne una ovis morbida contaminet totum gregem, te a communione fratrum separamus, quousque beneficium absolutionis merueris optinere.

Præfigimus etiam tibi terminum peremptorium quindecim dierum, quod infra quindecim dies continue sequentes, ab hujusmodi sententiis et pœnis quas incurristi faciatis te absolvi, alioquin, nos exnunc prout extunc pronuntiamus te, tanquam inobedientem *proprietarium* et incorrigibilem, fore carcerali custodiæ mancipandum. Et si imposterum pertinax, inobediens, et incorrigibilis extiteris, et obstinatus, nos, nunc prout extunc, te fore decrevimus a Monasterio expellendum, juxta Sanctorum patrum canonica instituta, et observantias regulares.

356. — Commissio Domini Henrici Prioris facta Fratri S. de Sancto Petro, pro meremio dando Domino R. de Stangrave, militi.[2] 7 June 1331. L. 178 *a*.

Henricus permissione divina Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis dilecto sibi in Christo Fratri S. de The Custos of Orpington is em-

[1] *bonis*?

[2] Prior Henry of Eastry, in whose name this commission, dated 7th June, is issued, died on 8th April 1331, and was succeeded by Richard Oxenden. The difficulty as to the

powered to deliver twelve rafters and two posts to Sir H. Stangrave out of Ockolt wood belonging to Christ Church.

Sancto Petro, Custodi manerii nostri de Orpyngton, salutem in Auctore salutis. Mandamus vobis quod liberare faciatis Domino Roberto de Stangrave, militi, xij. cheverones et ij. postes de quercu, de longitudine xx. pedum, in bosco nostro de Ocholte; proviso quod hujusmodi xij. cheverones et ij. postes per visum vestrum eligantur et prosternantur, et quod illa occasione non fiat aliud dampnum in bosco nostro prædicto. Dat. Cantuar. vij^mo die Junii, anno Dni. Millesimo CCC^moXXXJ^o.

(June 1331.)

L. 8 *a*.

357.—Littera directa Capellano Domini Archiepiscopi de quibusdam novis ab ipso desideratis.

The Prior reports to the Arch-

Salutem. De statu nostro hæc scribimus vobis: benedictus Deus, paulatim et mirabiliter unitas bonæ

(June 1331.)

L. 8 *a*.

358.—Littera directa supplicatoria Ballivo de Wyngham pro nutritura filiorum Henrici et Isabellæ de Peddyng.

Salutz et saunte de corps et dalme. Nous vous prioms cherement, qe faire voillez, ou maunder a vostre leu tenant qil face, a vostre primer Hundred, execution de la lettre qe nostre Seignur le Erchevesqe vous manda, endroit de la nutriture de les enfantz Henry de Peddyng et Isabel sa femme; issi qe nostre Seignur Lerchevesqe ne ses ministres soient blamez par my vostre defaute, et qe pleynte ne soit fait en plushaut court pur le bail de la nutriture avant dite. A Dieu, etc. Dat. etc.

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date is solved by supposing that the instrument was drawn up before Prior Henry's death, but not issued for two months.

pacis crescit inter nos et fratres nostros, ac etiam ipsi fratres, licet nobis indignis, obedientiam exhibent reverenter. Et orate Deum pacis, ut in tantum crescat hæc unitas quod possimus perseverantes computari inter illos de quibus scribitur in Actibus: *Multitudinis credentium erat cor unum et anima una.* Hanc felicem unitatem multum desideramus; scientes, quod inter alia speciosa quibus de[1] decoratur cura sollicita Præsidentis, illud nimirum excellentius ipsam exornat, quod unitas inter patrem et filios speciales optineat principatum, et quod subditi sui, in hiis quæ sunt Dei, fratribus suis reverenter exhibeant obedientiam debitam cum honore, quæ ipsos in caritate consolidet, in tranquillitate confirmet, et molestis eventibus viam præcludat. Valete.

bishop's Chaplain that there is peace and good will throughout the Canterbury Convent. Act. iv. 22.

358.

Greeting and health of body and mind. We beg you tenderly that you, or your deputy by your orders, will, in your next Hundred Court, give effect to the letter sent to you by our Lord the Archbishop, concerning the maintenance of the children of Henry de Peddyng and his wife Isabel; so that neither our Lord the Archbishop nor his ministers may be blamed on account of any neglect of yours, and that no complaint may be made in a higher court about the provision of the said maintenance.

[1] By inserting this superfluous *de* the writer, whom a subsequent Archbishop reproved for his turgid style, sacrifices sense to sound.

13 July 1331.
L. 8 *a*.

359.—Littera directa Domino Simoni Archiepiscopo de habendo consilio utrum festum Translationis Sancti Benedicti sit celebrandum, et de aliis supplicatoriis contentis in dicta littera.

The Prior consults the Archbishop on three points. (1.) He requests that the Penitentiaries of the Monastery (who are the Archbishop's nominees) may be restrained in dealing with cases concerning the three great vows of the Benedictine Order—poverty, chastity, and obedience. (2.) He asks advice about the keeping of the festival of the Translation of St. Benedict. (3.) He asks for authority to absolve in the case of a woman who has killed her child unbaptized.

Venerabili patri suo devotus filius totaliter semetipsum. Pater reverende, audivi aliqua propter quæ videtur michi utile, necessarium, et expediens, quod, tantum præsidentes regulæ Sancti Benedicti habeant potestatem absolvendi fratres suos si delinquant in aliquo trium substantialium regulæ Sancti Benedicti. Et hinc est, quod, benignæ paternitati vestræ humiliter preces infundo, quatinus placeat vobis mittere litteras vestras Capitulo vestro, in quibus fiat mencio, quod Pœnitentiarii vestri habeant manus ligatos, quoad absolutionem super tribus substantialibus regulæ Sancti Benedicti. Hæc scribo vobis non sine magna causa.

Ad hæc, pater reverende, oppiniones sunt inter filios vestros et confratres meos de festo Translationis Sancti Benedicti; utrum illud festum debeat celebrari, vel non. Quidam dicunt, et michi videtur bene, quod ipsa festivitas non est celebrandum; et una ratio sic dicentium est ista: Quia inter statuta Abbatis sic dicitur: "Festum Translationis Sancti Benedicti peni-
" tus omittatur, donec super hoc Romana Curia con-
" sulatur." Hujus oppinionis est Frater H. de Sancto Ivone, quem reputo virum providum et discretum, et alii fratres sunt oppinionis contrariæ. Tandem, propter istam contrarietatem, hoc diffinitum est per assensum fratrum nostrorum: ut queratur consilium vestrum si prædicta festivitas debeat celebrari. Hac ratione motus, affectuose vos rogo, quatinus velitis Capitulo vestro scribere, ac etiam consulere si dicta festivitas debeat celebrari. Tertium est, si placet, quod vos rogo: Est quædam mulier, de qua habeo probabilem suspicionem quod ipsa filium suum non baptizatum

occidit, super quo homicidio placeat vobis committere michi potestatem absolvendi prædictam mulierem, si ipsam valuero inducere ad hoc, ut ipsa velit michi prædictum peccatum suum confiteri. Hiis precibus meis dignemini aures vestras favorabiliter apperire; considerantes quod, ad ea quæ cedunt in augmentum cultus divini devoti fideles aures apperiunt, oculos dirigunt, mentes erigunt, et manus suas gratanter porrigunt, ac liberaliter offerunt se et sua, ut sic propentius placeant omnium Conditori. Valeat et vigeat vestra reverenda paternitas in prosperitate felici. Data xiij° die Julii, anno Dni. M°CCC°XXXJ.°

360.—Commissio Ballivi de East Kent.

June 1331.

L. 7 *b*.

Commission of the official who managed the lands and tenants in East Kent on behalf of the Convent of Christ Church.

Pateat universis, etc. quod nos R. permissione divina Prior, etc. facimus et constituimus dilectum nobis in Xpo. A. de B. ballivum et attornatum nostrum specialem in Custodia dicta de East Kent in comitatu Kanciæ, ad curias nostras tenendas in maneriis nostris in Custodia prædicta, et ad supervidendum in dictis maneriis nostris, si opus fuerit, omnia waynagia terrarum nostrarum, prata, pascua et pasturas, boscos, et omnia alia ad prædicta maneria nostra pertinentia, ac etiam omnes servientes et ministros nostros; et omnia jura et libertates nostras, nos et Ecclesiam nostram, homines, et tenentes nostros qualitercunque contingentia in Custodia prædicta, petendum, conservandum, defendendum, et manutenendum, ubicunque, et coram quibuscunque ministris Domini Regis vel aliorum quorumcunque. Volumus et mandamus quod omnes ministri, homines, et tenentes nostri, in Custodia prædicta, in omnibus quæ ad nos et Ecclesiam nostram prædictam super præmissis pertinent, præfato A. de B. sint respondentes et intendentes, ita tamen, quod nulli liceat, sub quocunque colore, aliquid de boscis nostris prosternere vel succidere, absque consilio et

assensu nostro vel locum nostrum tenentis, nisi tantummodo pro domibus, molendinis, et aliis ædificiis nostris sustentandis et reparandis; et hoc per visum custodis Custodiæ prædictæ qui pro tempore fuerit, excepto subbosco pro sepibus nostris claudendis. In cujus rei testimonium has litteras nostras fieri fecimus patentes, quamdiu nobis placuerit duraturas; omnes vero commissiones, sub quacunque forma, quibuscunque personis super præmissis prius concessas, tenore præsentium totaliter revocamus, et pro revocatis et nullis exnunc haberi volumus et teneri.

Memorandum quod Johannes Broke habuit commissionem de Estkent sub forma prædicta, sub data Cantuar. ultimo die Aprilis anno regni Regis Edwardi tertii post conquestum xxij^do^. Item: Petrus Favelore habuit eandem commissionem sub forma prædicta in comitatibus Essex, Suffolk, et Norfolk, sub data Cantuar. xvij° die Maii, anno prædicto.

June 1331.

L. 7 *b.*

A patron is asked to promote the business of the Monastery in the King's Bench, and to take his instructions from the standing counsel of the Convent.

361.—Littera directa de credencia Domino W. de Everdon de negotiis expediendis.

Salutem et perpetuam corporis et animæ sospitatem. Quia habemus quædam negotia in Curia Domini Regis Londoniarum expedienda, quæ per vos felicius poterunt expediri, amicitiam vestram requirimus et rogamus, quatinus fideli nostro T(homæ) de M(edmenham), latori præsentium, in hiis quæ vobis ex parte nostra dixerit viva voce fidem indubiam adhibere velitis. Et negotia prædicta sic de vobis plenarie confidimus pro viribus expedire, scientes quod per hujusmodi expeditionem vim sanctæ caritatis, ut firmiter credimus, multipliciter poterit augmentari; beneplacitum vestrum michi vestro cum placuerit corditer rescribentes. In votiva prosperitate semper valeatis. Dat. Cant., etc.

June 1331.

L. 7 *b.*

Formula. A testi-

362.—Littera testimonialis de conversatione.

Universis Christi fidelibus, etc. Ricardus permissione, etc. Quia conversationis honestæ odorem suavissimum

ad Christi fidelium notitiam ardenter cupimus, ut debemus, sub testimonio pervenire laudabili; vobis, tenore præsentium, scire facimus A. de B. hominem esse fidelem et bonæ conversationis, quod experti sumus per suum servitium diutinum nobis fideliter exhibitum. Et, ne calumpniantium invidia aut hora[1] insidiantium maliciose captati, ejus mores qualitercunque alicui in dubium possint revocari, eidem A. de B., usque diem datæ præsentium, super suorum morum laudabili conversatione, ut omnibus plenius innotescat, has litteras nostras testimoniales sigillo nostro fecimus consignari. Dat., etc.

monial of fidelity and good conversation.

363.—Littera supplicatoria mittenda pro negotiis amici expediendis. (June 1331.)

L. 178 *a*.

Venerabili in Christo patri et domino suo, Domino Priori Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, suus, si placet, clericus T. de B. votiva semper obsequia cum reverentia, tam debita quam devota. Licet, pater karissime, nullis meritis fulciatur animus meus, caro tamen et sanguis qui non beatificant michi revelarunt, ad interpellandum penes vestram clementiam pro amicis; maxime cum exauditione dignior est supplicationis materia, quam persona exigua supplicantis. Cum igitur michi prædilectus in Christo Frater Rogerius, Magister Hospitalis Beatæ Mariæ de Strode, harum bajulus, quandam ordinationem Domini mei, Dei gratia nunc Roffensis Episcopi, super statu Hospitalis prædicti, a vobis et Capitulo Ecclesiæ vestræ petere intendit misericorditer confirmari; vestræ dominationis gratiam devote requiro, quatinus petitionem ejusdem, quam reputo Deo placidam et cunctis pie zelantibus acceptam, meæ parvitatis intuitu, habere dignemini paulo gratiosius recommendatam. Spero enim, pater reverende, quod ad instantiam majorum effectum sentiet gratiosum, sed optarem, si libeat, quatinus meis precibus gauderet

A Chaplain of the Bishop of Rochester asks the Prior of Christ Church to confirm a set of amended statutes for the Hospital of St. Mary at Strood.

[1] *aura?*

se promptius expeditum. Si quæ, pater, placeret vobis michi vestro servitori præcipere, promptam habebitis servientis animam, et obsequii fructum, juxta posse

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1331.

L. 178 *b.*

364.—Littera missa E Gange, Ballivo Essexiæ, per custodem ejusdem, pro manerio de Suthchurch capiendo in manu nostra.

A tenant has died and his heir, being under age, has become the ward of the Lord of the Manor. The *Custos Maneriorum* of the Monastery therefore requires his officer to take the necessary steps for claiming the rights of the Convent.

Salutz com a luy meismes. Pur ceo qe jay entendu qe nostre tenaunte qi tint nostre manoir de Southchurch est a Dieu commande, et son heir de deinz age, (de) qy gard a nous attint, a ceo qest dit; vous prie qe vous y aletz, et tiele diligence ymettez qe nostre droit soit salve, a nostre profist et a vostre honour. Et de tout vostre fait nous certifiez par le portour de cestes, si vous poez a ceste foith pleinement certifier, et si non, auxi tost com vous purrez bonements fair; car le Priour et le Covent unt ceste chose moult al cuer. Et ne lessez mye pur doute de nully qe vous prenez le dit manoir en nostre main, salve chescuny droit. A Dieu.

(July 1331.)

L. 8 *b.*

365.—Littera directa Thomæ de Faversham pro attornatis coram se nominandis et faciendis.

A judge of trailbaston is asked to enrol two attornies for the Convent.

Saluz. Pur ceo qe nous avoms entendu, par nostre Suppriour, qe nous avoms diverses busoignes a esploiter devant vous et vos compeignes en cest traille-baston; vous prioms cherement, qe vous voillez accepter deux attornes, tieux com Sire Johan de Ifeld nostre Seneschal vous presentera, issi qe nous soioms par vostre aide, de qy nous fioms, et par lour suyte salve de damage. A Dieu.

totum. Feliciter valeat in filio virginis longæva prosperitas domini mei et patris. Dat. etc.

364.

Salvation such as he desires for himself. Whereas I have learned that our tenant who had the manor of Southchurch is recalled to his Maker, and that his son is under age, whose wardship belongs to us, as it is said; I pray you to go thither, and use your diligence that our rights may be respected, to our profit and your own honour. And by the bearer certify us of all your proceedings, if you can so certify us fully at this present time, and if you cannot, do so as soon as you well can; for the Prior and the Convent have this affair much at heart. And let it be clear to everyone that you seize the manor into our hands,[1] the rights of all persons being reserved.

365.

Greeting. Whereas we have heard, from our Sub-Prior, that we have divers cases to be argued before you and your fellows in this assize of *trailbaston;* we earnestly pray you that you will be pleased to accept two attornies, whom Sir John de Ifeld our Seneschal will present to you, so that by your help, in which we trust, and by their service in Court, we may be secured from damage. A Dieu.

[1] Perhaps—*and do not, through fear of anyone, hesitate to seize, &c.*

(July 1331.)

366.—Littera directa eidem Thomæ pro Walla de Lyden juxta Sandwycum.

L. 8 *b*.

The building of a sea wall, which ought to be paid for by a rate levied on all the owners of land in the protected marsh, is done at the sole cost of the Convent, who appeal to one of the "justices of the marsh."

Salutz en Dieu. Il vous sovyent bien coment le jugement du mareys de Lydene, passa nadgeres devant Sire Johan de Ifeld et vous, Justices del dit mareys, et coment le Baillif et les jures ove les seignurages furent chargez par vous, qe ceo qe feut ordine feut parfait deynz le Assumpcion Nostre Dame proschein suyant, sur greve peyne. Sachetz qe nous fumes le jour de la Magdeleyne sur le leu, et veymes laa la walle, qest commence a noz coustages, en defaute del Baillif et des culours del dit mareys; et meismes le jour avyemes ove nous a Estry amaunger bien avynt des meillours de la ville de Sandwyz, et moult des eux nous conseillerent qe nous duissoms a vous conseiller de cestes choses; kar acuns des seignurages font deleys, par quey la charge choira tout sur nous. Et sur ceo, si vous puissez faire tant qe Robert Brun de Sandwyz, qest nostre amy, feut par vous assignez en aide a destreindre, en defaut del dit Baillif del dit mareys, il freit en bref temps faire lever qantqe feut ajugge devant vous par les jurours avantditz. Et si nous ne puissoms mye aler tel chemyn, qe vous voudrietz procurer, si vous veiez qil fait afaire, qe le Conestable de Douvre nous aidast a destreindre, si mester soit; mais nous ne voudrioms mye qe le Souz-Conestable fuist appellez au conseil, ou se entremait de ceste busoigne. De ceste chose vous prioms de quer qe vous pensez, et par le portour de cestes, nous certifiez ceo qe fest meux afaire; kar nous dotoms de estre suppris par ascunes des seignurages maliciosement par envye. A Dieu.

366.

Greeting in God. You will remember how the judgment concerning Lyden marsh was settled lately before Sir John de Ifeld and you, Justices of the said marsh, and how the Bailiff, and the sworn-men, with the proprietors were charged by you, that what you had decreed should be completed before the feast of the Assumption of Our Lady next ensuing, under a severe penalty. Know that, on St. Mary Magdalen's day, we were on the spot, and surveyed the wall there which has been begun, at our own proper cost through default of the Bailiff and of the collectors of the said marsh; and the same day we had the very best men of the town of Sandwich to dine with us at Eastry, and many of them advised us that we ought to consult you about these matters, for some of the proprietors are interposing delays so that the whole cost will fall upon us. And on this point, if you could effect so much as that Robert Brown of Sandwich, who is a friend of ours, might be appointed to assist in compelling payment in case of default by the Bailiff of the said marsh, he would in a short time cause the sum assessed before you by the said jurors to be raised. And if we cannot proceed in that way, (we would) that you would contrive, if you see that it can be done, that the Constable of Dover should help us to enforce the payments, if need be; but we should not like the Sub-Constable to be called in or to mix himself up in this matter. We pray you heartily to think over this matter, and to certify us as to what is best to be done, by the bearer of these, for we fear we shall be maliciously taken unawares by some of the proprietors through envy. Adieu, &c.

24 July 1331.

367.—Littera directa Domino J. Launge pro vinis nostris Franciæ.

L. 9 *a*.

Sir John Launge, who has received, in Paris, the price of the wine of St. Thomas for several years, is called to account.

A son treschier et bien amez en Dieu Monsire Johan Launge, Richard par la suffraunce Dieu Priour de la Trinite de Canterbirs, salutz, et la joye sanz fyn. Pur ceo qe, Sire, nous sumes novel homme et desiroms moult de aver acqueyntaunce, et de oyer bones noveles de vous, nous vous prioms et requeroms, qe vous nous voillez mander par le portour de ceste lettre, ou par autre, vostre estat auxi tost cum vous porrez. Et pur ceo qe nous avoms bien entendu qe, pur la grant devoccion qe vous avez devers Seint Thomas, vous avez traveile et receu la value de noz vinz en France de grant temps passe, qe sont especialement donez al dit Seint Thomas; nous vous prioms, qe qantqe vous avez receu de noz ditz vins del temps passez factez paer as marchantz de la Compeignie de Barde qe sont demoerantz a Parys, et prenez acquytaunce de eaux, de tantz deners paez a eaux par vous desqes a un certeyn terme; et quils maundent a lour compeignes qe sont demoerants a Loundres, qils nous payent les ditz deners qy ils unt receu de vous a Parys. Et voillez savoir, treschier amy, qe nous avoms suy vers Mestre Thebaud, fisicien Ma Dame la Royne Isabel, pur les ditz deners qe vous nous devez, qe ils fuissent paez de vostre rente qe vous avez a Loundres; sachetz, Sire, qe de cele rente ynia nulle esperaunce qe james seroms paiez de un dener. Et tout eyoms les lettres nostre Seignur le Roy Dengleterre et de la Royne sa compeigne au Roy de Fraunce, qe ils nous face paer les arrerages de les vins Seint Thomas qe sont uncore arrere, nous retendroms les lettres vers nous, tantque nous saveroms vostre volunte endroit de cestes choses. Et si

367.

To his very dear and well-beloved in God Sir John Launge, Richard by God's permission Prior of the Trinity in Canterbury, greeting and endless joy. Because, Sieur, we are newly come to our office, and we much desire to have acquaintance with, and to hear good news of you, we pray and require you that you will send word of your health to us by the bearer of this letter, or by some other hand, as soon as you can. And whereas we have heard that, thanks to the great devotion you have towards St. Thomas, you have laboured to collect the value of our wines in France for a long time past, which wines are especially dedicated to the said St. Thomas, we pray you that you will cause whatever you have received for our wines in times past to be paid to the Company of the Bardi established in Paris, and take from them an acquittance for so much money paid to them by you up to a certain time, and let them send instructions to their partners at London, that they may pay to us the said money which they have received from you in Paris. And please to understand, very dear friend, that we have made suit to Master Thebaud the physician to Madame the Queen Isabella for the said money which you owe, (asking) that it might be paid out of the rent which you possess in London; know Sieur that there is no hope that out of this rent we shall ever get one penny. And although we have letters from our Lord the King of England and from his consort the Queen addressed to the King of France, asking him to cause the arrears of the wine of St. Thomas which are still behind to be paid to us, we shall still keep these letters in our own hands until we know your intentions about these matters. And if you

vous plest qe vostre commission soit renouvely, nous voillez maunder par meismes le portour. Adieu, Sire, etc. Donez a Adesham pres de Canterbirs, le xxiiij^{m} jour de Juyl, lan de grace Mil CCCXXXJ.

25 July 1331.

L. 9 *a*.

368.—LITTERA DIRECTA THOMÆ DE MEDMYNHAMME DE GRATIA FACIENDA TENENTIBUS DE RYSBERGH PRO PALFREDO PRIORIS.

The tenants of Risborough Monachorum having complained of poverty which prevented them from paying their dues, the Prior directs an agent to tax them to the extent which he sees they can bear.

Salutz. Pur ceo qe Johan atte Welle et Richard le Hoppere de Rysbergh nous unt fest entendant, qe James Frysel nostre Seneschal del Val de Eylesbury ad mys a reson noz tenantz en nostre Court de Rysbergh, a conustre lour Seignur en aide de un palfrey; sachez qe le dit Johan dit qe en tel aide unqes ne donerent outre quarante soudz et nostre dit Seneschal lour ad demande dix marks; sur quele chose, sicome ils dient, ils sunt venuz a nous de quere meillure grace. Et pur ceo qe nous ne avoms pas connaissaunce de eaux, ne de lour poer ou nonpoer, fyablement nous les maundoms a vous, qe vous les apposez et, solom vostre discretion, taxez, et hastivement nous certifiez de la dite taxacion. A Dieu, etc. Donez a Broke le xxv^{m} jour de Juyl, lan avantdit.

26 July 1331.

L. 9 *a*.

369.—LITTERA DIRECTA JACOBO FRYSEL DE EODEM NEGOTIO.

The Prior agrees to accept forty shillings as part payment of ten marks, at which the tenants of Risborough

Salutz. Pur ceo qe nous avoms entendu qe vous avez mys a reson noz tenants de Rysebergh, de une connissaunce faire a nous, endroit de un aide a un palfrey; sachez qe un Johan atte Welle et Richard le Hoppere nous unt quys et requys pur grace aver de meismes cele aide; et nous diens, qe vous lour demandetz dix marks, et qils vous tendent quarante soudz. Et pur ceo qe nous ne sumes pas uncore avyse

wish that your commission should be renewed please to send us word by the bearer of these. Adieu, &c.

368.

Greeting. Whereas John atte Welle and Richard the Hopper of Risborough have given us to understand that James Frysel our Seneschal for the Vale of Aylesbury has put our tenants to answer in our manor-court at Risborough, to compel them to make a recognizance to their Lord for a contribution towards his palfrey; know that the said John says that in case of such an aid they never contributed more than forty shillings, and yet our said Seneschal has demanded ten marks from them, on which account, as they say, they have come to us to make better terms. And because we have no knowledge of these people, nor of their ability or inability to pay, we confidently send them to you, that you may question them, and after your discretion, tax them, and quickly let us know the amount of the said taxation. Adieu, &c.

369.

Greeting. Whereas we have heard that you have put our tenants at Risborough to their answer, in the matter of the making of a recognizance to us about their aid towards a palfrey; know that one John atte Welle and Richard the Hopper have again and again begged us to show favour in the matter of this same aid, and they tell us that you demand ten marks of them and that they tender you forty

have been taxed, as their contribution to his policy.

quey nous dyoms faire endroit de cele grace, nous voulons, si vous veiez qe fest afaire, qe vous recevez les xl. souldz qils tendent en partie de soutte del remanent qe depent en nostre grace. Et qe apres cele soutte de les quarante sols soyent en pees, sanz duresse faire a eaux, desqes atant qe vous avetz nostre deliberacion pleynement endroit de ceste busoigne; de quele busoigne vous serrez certifiez par temps, par le gardeyn ou par aseun des noz. A Dieu, etc. Donez a Broke le xxvj^m^ jour de Juyil, anno ut supra.

15 Aug. 1331.

370.—Alia littera directa Jacobo Frysel de eodem negotio.

Excited by the news that the Rysbergh men had obtained a remission of a part of their tax, the tenants of the adjoining manors have endeavoured to escape a similar proportion of their own payment. The Prior, therefore, directs that the Seneschal shall get from them all he can extort.

Salutz. Nous avoms entendu qe noz tenants de Rysbergh vont disant par pays, qe nous avoms relesse pur quarante sols les dix marks qe vous lour avez demaunde de un aide faire a un palfrey a nostre oeps; et qe noz tenants de Newenton et de Halton unt pris ensample de eaux, de nous querre et de prier grace de aver aseun reles de meisme tiele aide faire. Et pur ceo qe y semble a nous et a nostre conseil qe ceo serroit prejudice et damage a nous et as noz successours de tiel reles faire, nous vouloms qe vous les taxetz solom vostre descrecion, et qe vous les deners faces lever a nostre oeps, sanz nul altre pardon faire endroit de cestes choses, nyent aiant regard a nostre primere lettre, qe nous vous mandames nadgeres pur Johan atte Welle et Richard le Hoppere de Rysbergh. Donez a Cantebirs le jour del Assumpcion Nostre Dame.

28 Aug. 1331.

371.—Littera missa H. de Lappeflode ballivo de Dockumbe contra tenentes ibidem.

L. 9 b. A new Prior, reciting an

A son treschier et bien amez en Dieu H. de Lappeflode tenant le leu nostre Seneschal en le counte

shillings. And because as yet we are not aware what we ought to do in the matter of this favour, we desire, if you see that it can be done, that you accept the forty shillings, which they tender, in part payment of the remainder which is dependant upon our favour. And that after this payment of the forty shillings they may be in peace, without any pressure being put upon them, until you have our decision fully expressed on this question; on which matter you shall be informed in good time by the warden of manors or by one of our people. Adieu, &c.

370.

Greeting. We have heard that our tenants of Risborough are going about saying, that we have commuted for forty shillings the ten marks, which you demanded of them as an aid towards a palfrey for our use; and that our tenants of Newington and Halton have taken example by them, and are seeking and praying the favour of some relaxation in making the same aid. And therefore as it seems to us and our counsel that to make such a relaxation would be to the prejudice and damage of us and our successors, we desire that you should tax them according to your discretion, and that you cause the money to be collected for our use without making any relaxation whatever on account of these things, and taking no notice of our first letter that we sent you lately, in favour of John atte Welle and Richard the Hopper of Risborough. Given, &c.

371.

To his very dear and well-beloved in God H. de Lappeflode, deputy of our Seneschal in the County of

old order relating to the manor of Doccombe, and not knowing if it has been executed, directs the Bailiff to see it completely carried out.

de Devenschir, ou a son leu tenant, R(ichard) Priour del Esglise de Canterbirs salutz. Sachetz qe nous avoms trove en registre nostre predecessour, qil vous ad, avant ces houres, maunde par ses lettres, qil volleit qe toutes noz terres qi noz vilains tenent de nous a Dockumbe a nostre volunte demoererent toutz jours en la mein et en la garde de ascun de noz vilains demeigne, de tener a nostre volunte, solom ceo qe vous veissetz qe feut afaire a nostre profist; et qe noz dites terres ne fuissent baillez a nul frank homme, ne a nul vilain qi feut de altre seignurie qe del nostre, tout voilleit il plus doner que un de noz vilains demeigne. Et auxi il vous maunda, qe vous ne duissetz bailler nostre terre de Dockumbe a nul homme qi la demande par droit et par decente de heritage; et auxi qil voilleit qe noz vilains de Dockumbe, qi sont taillables a nostre volunte, et qi ne furent grant temps passe taillez, qe vous faicetz taxer et priser touz les chatels et biens moebles qil avoient; et qe vous faicetz lever de chescun mark de lour biens et de lour chatels moebles xij. deners, a nostre oeps cume taillage, pur continuer le droit de nostre Esglise; et[1] cele taillage ove la rente et les issues de noz terres de Dockumbe nous facetz avoir a plustost qe vous puissetz; et qe vous facietz escrivre en un roule toutz les nounz de toutz noz hommes et noz tenantz de Dockumbe qi furent a cele houre en vye, et cel roule luy faicetz maunder a plustost qe vous puissez. Et par ceo qe nous ne sumes pas certifiez si execucion de toutes les choses avant dites soit fait ou ne mye; nous voloms qe, quant a taillage de noz vilains, si ils ne soient mye taillez qils soient taillez solom la forme avantdite, et qe execucion soit fait de cele taillage ore a la feste de Seint Michel proschein avenir; et qe vous nous maundez les nouns de

[1] At this point Prior Oxenden begins to quote the very words of Prior Eastry's letter (219), instead of, as before, merely reporting its tenor.

Devon, or to his deputy, Richard Prior of the Church of Canterbury greeting. Know that we have found in the register of our predecessor, that he has sent word to you before the present time by his letters, that he wished that all our lands which our bondmen held at will from us at Doccombe should always remain in the hands and under the care of some of our own bondmen, to be held at our will, according as you might see was best to be done for our profit; and that our lands should not be delivered to any freeman, nor to any bondman belonging to any lordship other than ours, even although he might offer more than one of our own bondmen. And also he sent you word that you should not deliver our land at Doccombe to anyone who demanded it as by right, or by inheritance through descent; and also he desired that as to our bondmen at Doccombe (who may be taxed according to our mere will, and who have not been so taxed for a long time) that you should cause all the chattels and moveable goods that they possess to be assessed and appraised, and that you should cause twelve pence to be taken for every mark of their goods and chattels, for our use, under the name of talliage, in order to keep alive the right of our Church " and let us have this talliage and the rent of our lands " at Doccombe as soon as ever you can, and (we desire) " that you cause to be written in a roll all the names of " all our men and of our tenants at Doccombe who are " alive at this time, and let this roll be sent as soon as " you can." And because we are not informed with certainty if all the aforesaid things have been done or not, we desire that, as to the talliage of our bondmen, if they have not already been talliaged they may talliaged now, in the form above mentioned, and that this talliage shall be carried into effect between now and next Michaelmas; and that you send to us the names of all our men and of our tenants at Doccombe who are now alive. And as for the rent and profits of the last two years, let us have them as early as you can after the said feast of

toutz nos hommes et noz tenants de Dockumbe avantdit qi sont ore en vye. Et la rente et les issues de deux anns proscheins passez nous facetz avoir a plustost com vous porrez apres la dite fest Seint Michel. Et ceo qe vous entendez de fair endroit de cestes choses et des altres nous remandez par le portour de cestes, si vous ne puissetz meismes venir. A Dieu. Donez a Canterbirs le xxviij^{e} jour de Augst, lan del regne le Roy Edward tiers apres le conquest quint.

(July 1331.)

L. 8 *b*.

372.—Responsio facta litteræ Domini W. de Monte Acuto.

The Prior, having been asked to appoint the nominee of an influential person to be bailiff of Risborough, replies that there is no vacancy there.

A son trescher et bien amez, en Dieu Monsire Willeam Mountagu, Richard par la suffrance Dieu Priour, etc., salutz et saunte et solas de corps et de corage. Endroit de ceo qe vous nous mandastes nadgeres par vos lettres, qil nous plese mettre vostre bien amez Willeam de Culgaith, si nous voissoms qil fuist a faire pur nostre profist, en la baillie de nostre manoir de Risebergh, prenant de luy bone et suffisaunte seurte de nous servir bien et loialment en meisme la baillie; voillez savoir, trescher Sire, qil ny ad nulle baillie ne service en nostre dit manoir veude. Pur quey nous vous prioms, qe vous nous aietz a ceste foith bonement excusez. Et sachetz, Sire, qe nous seroms grantement blamez de nostre Covent, si nous maissoms nul hors de son service qe nous ad bien et loialment servi et nostre predecessour, qe Dieux asoille. A Dieu, etc. Don. etc.

St. Michael. And let us know by the bearer of these what you propose to do about these and other things, unless you can come yourself. Adieu, &c.

372.

To his very dear and well-beloved in God Sir William Montague, Richard by God's permission Prior, &c., greeting, and health and comfort of body and spirit. As to that of which you lately sent us word in your letters, namely, that we should, if we saw that it could tend to our profit, put your well-beloved William de Culgaith into the office of bailiff of our manor of Risborough, taking from him good and sufficient security for his good and loyal service to us in that same office; please to understand, very dear Sir, that there is no office of bailiff or other service in our said manor now vacant, wherefore we pray you that you will for this time kindly hold us excused. And know, Sir, we shall be much blamed by our Convent, if we put out of our service anyone who has well and loyally served us and our predecessor, whom God assoil. Adieu, &c.

(July 1331.)

L. 8 *b*.

373.—Littera directa Ballivo marisci de Romenal de novo Ballivo facto in Weteryngg de Aghenelonde per illos de villa de Romenal, in præjudicium nostrum et aliorum dominorum dicti marisci.

The men of Romney have appointed a bailiff without consulting the other proprietors of Romney Marsh.

Salutz. Pur ceo qe nous avoms entendu par nostre serjant de Aghene, qe les gentz de la ville de Romenal, en prejudice de nous et de nostre Esglise et des altres seignurages du mareys de Romenal, unt fait un bailliff en la Wateryngg de Aghenelonde, et en contre les ordinaunces et custumes de ley maresche, les seignurages du dit mareys nient appellez; vous prioms cherement, qe vous assemblez les xxiiij. jurours, et les grevaunces qils nous unt fait facetz, sil vous plest, hastivement redresser, solum les ordinances du dit mareys, sicome vous estez tenuz par vostre serment. A Dieu, etc.

After July 1331.

L. 178 *b*.

374.—Littera Domini Abbatis de Waltham nobis directa ad orandum pro animabus fratrum defunctorum.

The Abbot of Waltham announces the death of one of his Canons and asks the Prior to perform those services for his soul to which he is bound by his bond of confraternity.

Reverendissimo patri in Xpo. . . . Domino Dei gratia Priori Sanctæ Trinitatis Cantuariæ et ejusdem loci sacro Conventui, Ricardus ejusdem permissione Abbas Sanctæ Crucis de Waltham, salutem, et sinceram in Domino caritatem. Sanctissimæ fraternitati vestræ significamus, dilectum Fratrem nostrum Johannem, canonicum, sacerdotum, et professum, xvj° Kalendas Julii proximo præterito ante datum præsentium, diem clausisse extremum, pro cujus transitu, confœderatam fraternitatem vestram requirimus et rogamus, quatinus ipsius animæ, ad requiem tendenti, orationum suffragiis, quibus invicem obligamur, pia

373.

Greeting. Whereas we have heard, by our Serjeant at Aghene, that the men of the town of Romney, to the damage of us and our Church and of the other owners in Romney marsh, have appointed a bailiff in the district of Agheneland, and contrary to the ordinances and customs of marsh-law, the owners of the said marsh not having been duly summoned; we earnestly pray you, that you assemble the twenty-four jurors and, if you please, speedily redress the injuries which they have caused to us, after the ordinances of the said marsh, as you are bound to do by your oath. Adieu, &c.

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celeritate subvenire dignemini. Valete in Christo et ejus matre gloriosa. Dat., etc. Anno, etc.

375.—Littera directa Domino Simoni Archiepiscopo pro novitiis profitendis cum littera credentia. 30 Aug. 1331.

L. 9 *b*.

Venerabili in Xpo. patri suo devotus filius, id quod potest obedientiæ reverentiæ et honoris. Quia tres novitii, qui in festo Sancti Dionisii proximo præterito primo fuerunt induti habitu monachali in Ecclesia vestra Cantuariensi, et eundem habitum gestantes laudabiliter in religione steterunt, et petunt instanter profiteri, paternitatem vestram suppliciter deprecor et devote, quatinus, si ipsorum novitiorum professionem

The Prior, still endeavouring to get the *profession* of Novices into his own hands asks the Archbishop to

to act as his deputy on the occasion of the admission of some young monks.

personaliter admittere decreveritis, velitis mihi innotescere; si autem, aliis præpediti negotiis, ad id faciendum hac vice commode non poteritis vacare, placeat vobis, pro hujusmodi ministerio exequendo, michi committere vices vestras prout in casu consimili fieri consuevit. Adhuc, pater reverende, admittere dignemini si placet ad audientiam benignam et indubiam Fratrem Thomam de G., capellanum vestrum, super hiis quæ vobis ex parte mea organo vivæ vocis duxerit exponere. Beneplacitum vestrum in hiis et aliis, per bajulum præsentium, literatorie placeat significare michi vestro. Valeat et prospere vigeat vita vestra in Christo, sine quo nichil valere potest nec vigere. Dat. Cantuar. xxx. die Augusti, anno Dni. M°CCC^mo°XXXJ°.

(1331.) L. 10 *a*.

376.—Littera directa Fratri Thomæ de Guodwyneston pro litteris dimissoriis habendis a Domino Archiepiscopo.

A monk of Christ Church, who is in the household of the Archbishop, is asked to obtain dimissory letters for some monks who wish to take holy orders.

Salutem. Quia in proximo tempus instabit ordines celebrandi, et expedit quamcito fieri poterit quosdam fratres Ecclesiæ nostræ Cantuariensis ad sacros ordines promoveri; rogetis Dominum nostrum Cantuariensem ex parte nostra, quod ipse pro dictis fratribus nostris ordinandis mittat nobis litteras suas dimissorias, juxta formam præsentibus interclusam, vel aliam competentem quam idem dominus magis voluerit acceptare. Et vellemus, si placeret domino, quod hujusmodi litteræ dimissoriæ dupplicarentur, propter eventus inopinatos; quas litteras dupplicatas, cum habueritis signatas sigillo prædicti domini, nobis mittatis per præsentium portitorem. Valeat in x°. Dicatis ex parte nostra Thomæ de Bisschoppiston, quod ipse instet erga dominum pro negotiis nostris expediendis. Dat., etc.

377.—Item; pro aliis litteris dimissoriis habendis. (1331.)

L. 10 *a*.

The Archbishop having granted the dimissory letters asked for, it is found that they are informal, and that the Bishop of Rochester will not accept them as justifying him in conferring minor orders.

Suo patri. Cum nuper fratres nostri juniores ordinandi, cum magistro suo, usque ad numerum xij. personarum, ad manerium Domini Episcopi Roffensis apud Hallyngg, cum litteris vestris dimissoriis, vigilia Trinitatis, venissent; præfatus Dominus Episcopus noluit, quia non potuit ut dicebat, dictos fratres, per hujusmodi litteras vestras dimissorias, in acolytos ordinare, quia litteræ vestræ dimissoriæ fecerunt tantummodo de sacris ordinibus mentionem. Et quia dicti fratres, de consuetudine Ecclesiæ vestræ Cantuariensis, non possunt epistolas in choro legere, nec in altari instare, nisi ordinem receperint subdiaconalem, nec sunt adhuc in acolitos ordinati, placeat paternitati vestræ mittere michi litteras vestras dimissorias, juxta formam præsentibus involutam, vel aliam quam vobis placuerit competentem. Valeat et prospere vigeat Dominus meus pater et pastor. Dat. etc.

378.—Item; Littera directa Cancellario pro hujusmodi litteris habendis. (1331.)

L. 10 *a*.

The Archbishop's Chancellor is asked to procure amended dimissory letters.

Salutem, quam sibi. Cum nuper mitteremus plures fratres nostros, cum litteris dimissoriis Domini nostri Cantuariensis, ad Dominum Episcopum Roffensem, ad diversos ordines promovendos; præfatus Dominus Episcopus noluit, quia non potuit ut dicebat, dictos fratres nostros per hujusmodi litteras dimissorias, ordinare, pro eo quod hujusmodi litteræ non faciebant de minoribus ordinibus mentionem, nec se extendebant extra diœcesim Cantuariensem; et ideo scripsimus præfato Domino nostro Cantuariensi, rogantes quod placeat sibi mittere nobis alias litteras dimissorias, juxta formam quam sibi mittimus, vel aliam quam sibi placuerit competentem, et quod hujusmodi litteræ

dimissoriæ dupplicentur propter inopinatos eventus. Quocirca amicitiam vestram rogamus, quod præfatum Dominum nostrum Cantuariensem informetis super

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(Sept.) 1331.)

L. 10 *a*.

379.—Littera directa Roberto de Ely pro victualibus emendis ad Priorem contra parliamentum.

An agent in London is asked to lay in provisions for the use of the Prior coming up to attend Parliament.

Salutz. Pur ceo qe nous sumes somons au parlement qi serra a Westm(estre) lendemein de la Seint Michel proschein avenir, et sumes despurveu de moult de nostre vitaille; vous prioms, qe vous soietz aidant et conseillant a W. le Hwyte, portour de ceste lettre, quant a purveaunce de vyn et de pesson pur nostre demoere al dit parlement, solom ceo qe entre vous deux saverez meux ordiner pur nostre profist. Et quant nous vendroms sur la counte de vostre purveaunce, nous froms vostre assetz ou par paie ou par allowance. Cher amy nous vous prioms qe vous aietz nos busoignes a cuer, kar par vostre aide et par vostre von conseil nous esperoms, ove le aide de Dieu, de meux esploiter nos busoignes. A Dieu.

(Sept 1331.)

L. 10 *b*.

380.—Littera directa W(illelmo) de Mondham pro Aula acceptanda Oxoniæ pro fratribus nostris mittendis ibidem ad scolas.

A Hall, the germ of Canterbury College, is hired in Oxford.

Totaliter seipsum cum salute. Per litteras vestras intelleximus quod, ad instantiam confratris nostri H. de Sancto Ivone, quæsivistis diligenter et explorastis unam aulam convenientem pro tribus fratribus nostris,

præmissis, et hujusmodi litteras dimissorias dupplicatas nobis mittere velitis, per præsentium portitorem. Valete, etc.

379.

Greeting. Whereas we are summoned to the parliament to be held at Westminster on the morrow of St. Michael next, and are unprovided with much of our necessary stores; we beg you to aid and advise W. the White, the bearer of this letter, in procuring wine and fish for use during our residence at this parliament, as may seem best to both of you and most profitable to us. And when we see the account of your purchases we will satisfy you, either by ready money or by allowances set to your credit. Dear friend, we beg that you will take our affairs to heart, for it is by your help and good counsel that we hope, with the help of God, to bring our business to a good end.

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et invenistis eam situatam juxta ecclesiam Sancti Petri in Oriente, ubi solebat Dominus Archiepiscopus manere; cujus aulæ pensio, vobis in præsenti concessæ, est pro vj. marcis sterlingorum, et nos ipsam aulam, cum cameris et deporto, pro dictis fratribus acceptamus, et prædictam pensionem persolvemus. Valete etc.

13 Sept. 1331.

L. 10 *b*.

381.—LITTERA DIRECTA BARONIBUS ET COMMUNITATI VILLÆ DE ROMENAL, CONTINENS DECLARATIONEM ET CAUSAM QUARE WILLELMUS DE MAYDESTAN QUONDAM NOVITIUS CITRA ANNUM PROFESSIONIS SUÆ HABITUM SECULAREM REACCEPIT.

A ses treschiers amys et veisins et bien amez en Dieu, Barones et a toute la Comminealte de la ville de Romenal, Richard, par la soeffraunce de Dieu Priour del Esglise de Canterbirs, et le Covent de meisme le leu, salutz, et saunte de corps et dalme. Sachetz qe le x^me^ jour de Septembre, contre vespre, nous receumes voz lettres, en queux lettres furent contenuz, qe monstre vous est pleintivement par voz pieres et combarons de Heth, et altres gentz voz chers amys, qe W. de Maydestane lour clerk et cosyn, et vostre cher amez, nadgaires entre nous a nostre habit receu, et enhabitez par nostre commune volunte et assent, ja, par malice et contempt, est privez de son habit, et de sa religion excloes, a grant esclaundre de nous et confusion de son estat ; et qe, la ou il reconoust en prive confession et descharga sa conscience de une legierte faite, par conseil luy done, son conge prist, pur son estat querer et dispensacion purchacer a la Court de Rome ; sachetz qe le dit W. unques par reddour ne fust demys de sa religion, ne privez de son habit, ne de son fait confes(sa) priveement a nul de nous, mais en commune conisseit apertement a nous et as altres, qe pur ceo qil avoit par ignorance receu deux foith le ordre dacolyte, il covendroit qil alast a la Court de Rome, pur aver dispensacion de cele irregulierte qil avoit encoru ; et devoutement nous pria qe ceste chose luy voulioms granter, pur salvacion de salme ; et par ceo qe nous entendimes qe son priere feut resonable, nous la luy grantames bonement, et a sa requeste, et de sa bone volente, deinz nostre enclos devant seculiers, deinz

381.

To their very dear friends and neighbours and their well-beloved in God the Barons and all the Commonalty of the Town of Romney, Richard by God's permission Prior of the Church of Canterbury and the Convent of the same place, greeting, and health of body and soul. Know ye that on the tenth day of September, just before vespers, we received your letters, in which letters it was contained, that it has been shown to you in way of complaint, by your fellows and Combarons of Hythe and others your good friends, that W. of Maidstone, their clerk and kinsman and your well-beloved, lately received among us into our monastic order, and by our common will and consent clad in our monastic habit, now through malice and contempt is deprived of his monastic habit, and excluded from his religious order, to our great scandal, and to the destruction of his good name; and that when in secret confession he had acknowledged a venial fault, so clearing his conscience, following advice which was given to him, he took his departure in order to seek restitution of his good name, and to obtain a dispensation in the Court of Rome; know ye that the said W. was never degraded from his order by rigour, nor deprived of his monastic habit, nor did he secretly confess his act to any of us, but he openly in public acknowledged to us and others that, because through ignorance he had twice received the order of acolyte, it behoved him to go to the Court of Rome, to obtain a dispensation from this irregularity which he had incurred; and he devoutly prayed us to grant him this (permission) for the salvation of his soul; and because we saw that his prayer was reasonable we willingly granted it, and at his request and of his own free will, within our precincts, in the presence of secular persons, within his year (of probation) with no religious profession received, he clothed himself in secular dress,

son an et nient profession receut; et se vesty de seculer habit, et prist le chemyn vers la Court de Rome avantdite. Et auxi en voz dites lettres feut contenuz, qe, par procurement des uns de noz commoignes, ses enemys com est dit, par articles ne pas veritables et malement compassez, et collusions par eaux entremises, est atort grevez, et de son propos et chemyn destreit, et desturbez, et arestuz utlaiguement, contre reson et sanz cause, et despitousement lettres a luy baillez ove articles maliciousement compassez contre luy, de puis son reces de nous. Nous vous prioms cherement, desicome de rien ne savioms de nul point de les choses avantdit, qe vous nous voillez certifier de les nouns qi tieux procurements unt fait, ou par qui, ou par queux, il est targez, ou ad estee aretuz, ou en quel leu, et qui et queux luy unt maunde tieux lettres maliciousement compassez contre son estat; et nous froms, par laide de Dieu, tiele amendement, qe Dieu se tendra paiez, et vous et nous par reson, en quant qe (en) nous est. A Dieu qe vous gard et quant qe a vous apent. Donez en nostre Chapitle le xiij. jour de Septembre lan de grace M[l]CCCXXXJ.

13 Sept. 1331.

L. 10 *b*.

A similar letter sent to the Barons of Hythe.

382.—Consimilis littera directa Baronibus et Communitati villæ de Hethe.

A ses treschiers amys, *etc. ut supra.* Sachetz qe le x[e] jour de Septembre, contre vespre, nous receumes voz lettres, en queux lettres furent contenus qe vous amarvillez outre meusure de ceo qe W. de Maydestan, vostre chier amez clerk et cosyn, nadgaires, par nostre bone volente et commun assent, a nostre habit receu et vestu, si legerement est demys de sa religion, et privez de son habit, pur une petite legierete faite en sa juvence, la quele il dust avoir reconuz en confession au Priour. Sachez qe le dit W. unques par reddour ne fuit demys de sa religion, ne privez de son

and took his way to the Court of Rome aforesaid. And also there was contained in your said letters, that by the procurement of some of our fellow monks, his enemies as it is said, by accusations by no means true but malignantly contrived, and by conspiracies devised by them, he is wrongfully troubled and driven from his purpose and journey, and interrupted, and unlawfully stopped, against justice and without cause; and letters spitefully given to him containing charges maliciously conceived against him, since his departure from us. We earnestly pray you, inasmuch as we never knew anything about the above mentioned things, that you will please to inform us of the names (of those) who have caused these procurements, or by what man or what men he is detained, where he has been stopped, that is to say at what place, and what man, or men, have sent the said letters malignantly conceived against his good name; and then we will by God's help make such amends, that God shall hold himself content, and you and we also, as far as lies in us. Given &c.

382.

To his very dear friends (*as above*). Know ye that on the tenth of September, &c. (*as above as far as*) and took his way to the Court of Rome aforesaid. And also in your said letters it was contained that our fellow monks, at their extreme peril, have delayed, checked, and interrupted the said W. in his journey, and in his persistent desire to serve God, and (that he has been) often stopped by the procurement of our aforesaid fellow monks, to his great injury, against justice, and without reasonable cause. We earnestly pray you, &c. (*as above*).

habit, ne de son fait unques confes(sa) privement au Priour, ne a nul de nous, mais en commune conisseit apertement a nous et as altres, qe, pur ceo qe il avoit par ignorance receu deux foith le ordre dacolyte, il convendroit qil alast a la Court de Rome pur avoir dispensacion de cele irregulierete qil avoit encoru; et devoutement nous pria qe ceste chose luy voulioms granter pur salvacion de salme. Et, pur ceo qe nous entendimes qe sa priere fut resonable, nous la luy grantames bonement, et a sa requeste, et de sa bone volente, deinz nostre enclos devant seculiers, deinz son an et nyent profession receut, et se vesty de seculer habit, et prist le chemyn vers la Court de Rome avantdit. Et auxi en voz dites lettres feust contenuz,

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(Sept. 1331.)

L. 11 *a*.

383.—LITTERA DIRECTA DOMINO THOMÆ SUPPRIORI PRO MAGISTRO W. DE HETH AD ORDINEM NOSTRUM ADMISSO, UT SIBI CERTUM DIEM ASSIGNET QUALITER HABITUM SUUM SECULAREM TRANSMUTARET.

The Prior, in London attending Parliament, gives directions to the Subprior about the admission of a new monk who has not been presented to the Archbishop.

Salutem in veræ salutis auctorem. Quia ad Priorem et Captulum nostrum pertinet clericos ydoneos ad ordinem et habitum regularem in Ecclesia nostra admittere, quandocunque viderint expedire, et ad Dominum Archiepiscopum, qui pro tempore fuerit, spectat tales clericos, sic admissos, antequam habitum recipiant regularem, quando commode fieri potuerit, jocundis aspectibus intueri, et ipsos benignis affectibus acceptare, et acceptationem suam in hac parte Priori, qui pro tempore fuerit, verbaliter, vel in clausa cedula notificare. Idcirco Dominus Cantuariensis, mediante

qe noz commoignes, a lour grant peril, unt targez, restreit, et destourbez, le dit W. de son chemyn, et de sa perseveraunte volente de Dieu server, et sovent arestuz par procurement de noz commoignes avantditz, a sa grant nusance, contre reson, et sanz cause resonable; nous vous prioms chierement, desicome de rien ne savioms de nul point de les choses avantdites, qe vous nous voillez certifier de les nouns qi tieux procurementz unt fait, ou par qy ou par queux, il est targez, ou ad este arestuz, et en quel leu, et nous froms, par laide de Dieu, tiele amendement qe Dieu se tendra paye, et vous et nous, par reson en quantque en nous est. A Dieu, *etc. ut supra.*

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nostra suggestione, præscripta considerans, nobis vix concessit, de gratia sua speciali, quod Magister W. de Heth, pro quo nobis scripsistis, habitu monachali sit indutus in Ecclesia prædicta, hoc non obstante, quod ipse Magister W. antequam habitum suum secularem transmutet aspectibus dicti Domini Cantuariensis[1] præsentetur. Unde placet nobis quod vos, pro ista transmutatione facienda, de consilio fratrum nostrorum, assignetis certum diem, videlicet, diem Apostolorum Symonis et Jude proxime venturum, quo die vobis et ceteris fratribus nostris præsentiam nostram proponimus exhibere. Quo ad illa quæ scripsistis nobis de Magistro J. de Elham, vobis organo vivæ vocis nostræ aliqualiter respondebimus. Valete, et valeant qui vos valere desiderant et vigere. Nova vobis scribere temporis brevitas non permittit. Dat. etc.

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[1] *non* ins. ?

Oct. 1331.

L. 11 *b*.

384.—Littera directa R. de Ely in qua continetur quod sibi mittimus litteram de attornatu, et Ricardo de Rothewell capellano pro redditibus et pensione nostris in London et Southwark colligendis, ac etiam duas indenturas pro domibus nostris lapideis in Chepe.

Letter of instructions to the London agent of the Convent.

Salutz. Nous vous enveoms, par le portour de cestes, vostre procuratie, de vous et de Richard de Rothewell chapelleyn, ademaunder, receyvre, et quiler, noz rentes, pensions, et fermes en Loundres et en Southwork. Et auxi les endentures, entre nous et Agneys de Hameldenn, de nostre celer de nostre novele meson de piere en Chepe, et troys seudes ove ix. estanz, des queles endentures la une est aseale de nostre seal *ad causas*, et lautre desasealle, la quele vous, sicome vous pouvez plus amein, aseallerez de vostre seal et la dite Agneys de son seal, et a nous, issi asealle, la remaunderez par le portour avantdit. A Dieu, etc.

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23 Oct. 1331.

L. 11 *b*.

385.—Commissio Ballivi de Dockumbe.

Commission granted to a bailiff for the manor of Doccombe in Devonshire.

Pateat universis per præsentes quod nos R. Prior, etc. facimus et ordinamus, etc. H. de Lappeflode Ballivum et Attornatum nostrum, ad Curias nostras tenendas, etc. in comitatu Devon, etc. [ut supra]. In cujus rei, etc. Dat. Cantuar. xxiij° die mensis Octobris, anno quinto regni Edwardi tertii post conquestum.

Dominus Walterus de Lappeflode Rector ecclesiæ de Braydeford habuit commissionem sub forma proxime præscripta sub data Cantuar. xiiij. die Novembris, anno regni Regis Edwardi tertii post conquestum x^mo^.

384.

Greeting. We send you, by the bearer of these, your power-of-attorney, for you and Richard de Rothewell chaplain, empowering you to demand, receive, and collect our rents, pensions, and farm-rents in London and Southwark. And also the pair of endentures made between us and Agnes de Hameldenn, for our cellar under our new stone house in Chepe, and three booths with nine standings, of which indentures the one is sealed with our seal *ad causas*, and the other is unsealed, which you, as you most conveniently can, will seal with your own seal, and the said Agnes with her seal, and then you will send it back to us, thus sealed, by the aforesaid bearer. Adieu.

Oct. 1331.

L. 11 *a*.

386.—Littera directa Suppriori pro quibusdam contingentibus Dominum J. Launge, Johannem de Isbergh, et Magistrum Ricardum de Soleby.

The Prior, still in London, congratulates the Sub-prior upon a partpayment of arrears made by the agent of the Convent in France; on another matter he does not congratulate him, and obscurely alludes to the affair.

Salutem. Recepimus litteras vestras, in festo Sancti Dionisii proxime præterito, in manerio nostro de Cheyham, continentes aliqua quæ nobis aliqualem lætitiam afferebant, pro eo quod scripsistis quod Dominus Johannes Launge, procurator et receptor redditus pro vinis nostris in Francia, satisfecit nobis in partem pro arreragiis redditus prædicti, se promittens nobis pro residuo plenarie satisfacturum. Scripsistis etiam quædam de alio Johanne quæ dictam lætitiam non augebant, tam de primo Johanne quam de secundo diffusius et utilius tangetur cum inter nos

He proposes to find other clerks to make their profession along with W. de Hythe, so that he may not be embarrassed by having to make his vows alone. He proposes that a power of attorney to act for the Convent in the Curia should be given to the Proctor of Oxford University, who is on his way to Rome.

verba mutuæ consolationis fuerint prolata. Adhuc, quia intelleximus quod magister W. de Heth in brevi habitum suum transmutabit, cogitetis efficacitur de aliquibus clericis ydoneis ad ordinem nostrum recipiendis, ne prædictus magister habitu monachali solus induatur. Valete in Christo, qui vos et omnes confratres nostros conservet in quiete veræ pacis et contemplationis. Credimus quod infra quatuor dies proximo venturis veniet ad vos Magister R. de Soleby, rediturus ad Curiam Romanam pro negotiis Universitatis Oxoniæ, qui fuerat procurator noster in Curia prædicta, et, ut dicunt, nichil recepit de Thesauraria nostra pro toto tempore quo fuerat nostri Capituli procurator; cum quo loquamini juxta vestræ discretionis judicium. Et placet nobis, si non displiceat fratribus nostris, quod ipse Magister R. habeat procurationem renovatum quo ad causas contingentes Ecclesiam nostram in Curia supradicta. Dat. die et loco supradictis.

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31 Oct. 1331.

L. 12 *a*.

388.—LITTERA DIRECTA BARTHOLOMEO DE LA BARDE PRO L. LIBRIS QUAS DOMINUS J. LAUNGE NOBIS DEBET PRO ARRERAGIIS DE VINIS NOSTRIS FRANCIÆ, ET PRO XL. MARCIS IN QUIBUS DICTUS BARTHOLOMEUS NOBIS TENETUR PER QUANDAM LITTERAM OBLIGATORIAM.

A member of the banking firm of the Bardi of Florence is asked to help in getting a debt of 50*l*. due to the Convent from their agent in France. He is also reminded that the

A son treschier amy Bertelmeu de Barde, le soen Richard par la soeffrance de Dieu Priour del Esglise de Canterbire, salutz, et chiers amistetz. Sachez, chier amy, qe Monsire Johan Launge, Chivaler, nadgaires vient a nous a Canterbire, pur faire gree a nous et a nostre Covent de une grante dette qe nous doit de ses arrerages de noz vins de Fraunce; de quele dette il ad nous certifie qe nous serons servy par my vostre main de cinquante livres desterlings, qe nostre Seignur le Roi Dengleterre luy ad de novele grante par ses lettres, destre paie a certeins termes, ove laide Sire Willeam de Everdon Baron del Eschekere nostre

387.—Commissio Thomæ atte Helle de Hundredo de Fellebergh et de Curia de Godmersham tenenda.

31 Oct. 1331. L. 11 *a*. Commission of the attorney of the Convent in the Hundred Court of Felbergh in Kent; who is also appointed seneschalof the manor of Godmersham.

Pateat universis, etc. quod nos Ricardus permissione divina Prior, etc. facimus et constituimus dilectum nobis in Christo Thomam atte Helle de Icham balivam et attornatum nostrum specialem, ad exigendum et manutenendum jura, et libertates, et consuetudines nostras approbatas, in Hundredo de Fellebergh, hac instanti die Jovis ibidem tenendo; ac etiam Curiam nostram de Godmersham, quæ dicitur *Laghe daye*, die Veneris proxime sequente, secundum consuetudinem antiquam et approbatam, tenendam, et jura nostra conservanda, defendenda, et manutenenda, secundum quod sibi videbitur pro utilitate nostra melius expedire. In cujus, etc. Dat. Cantuar. xvj° die Octobris, anno Edwardi Tertii quinto. Præsentibus post festum Sancti Lucæ Evangelistæ minime valituris.

388.

To his very dear friend Bartholomew dei Bardi, his friend Richard by God's permission Prior of the Church of Canterbury, greeting and close friendship. Know, dear friend, that Sir John Launge, Knight, lately came to us at Canterbury to pacify us about a heavy debt which he owes us through the arrears in his payments for our French wines, for which debt he now certifies us we shall have satisfaction at your hands, to the extent of fifty pounds sterling, (which our Lord the King of England has newly granted to him by his letters, and which are payable at certain assigned terms), with the assistance of Sir William de Everdon,

balance due upon a promissory note by the firm to the Convent is still unpaid.

Seignur le Roi avantdit, ore a yceo Nowel proschein avener, qi sera son primer terme, sicome en les lettres nostre Seignur le Roi pluspleinement est contenuz, Et pur ceo vous prioms cherement, sicom nous fioms de vous et de vostre Compeignie, et de vostre grant naturesse et aide, qe souvent avez fait a nous et a nostre Esglise, qe vous voillez, pur lamour Seint Thomas, tant penser et travailler qe nous puissons de les cinquante liveres avantdites estre paie, a yceo Nowel avantdit, a Canterbire. Auxi, cher amy, nous avoms trove une obligation de cent marcs, en la quele obligation vous estes meismes oblige en les avantditz cent marcs desterlings, les queux duissent avoir este paiez as les Toutz Seintz en lan passe; de queux cent marcz nous avoms entendu qe Pierre Byne ad une acquitaunce, de nostre predecessour, de soixante marcz; et pur ceo qe ne demoerrent mesques quarante marcz a paer; nous vous prioms, sicom avant, qe vous nous voillez les ditz quarante marcz faire paer a Canterbire en nostre chambre, sicom en la dite obligation pleinement est contenuz; et nous froms a vous et a vostre compeignie une acquitaunce de meisme la forme qe nostre predecessour fit a Pierre Byne vostre compeignon. Endroit de cestes chose, et autres si rien voillez vers nous, nous voillez certifier par le portour de cestes. A Dieu chier amy, qi vous gard et quantqe a vous apent et a vostre compeignie. Donez a Canterbire lendemeyn de Seynt Martyn, lan de grace M[l]CCCXXXJ.

4 Nov. (1331.)

L. 11 *b*.

389.—LITTERA DIRECTA CONSTABULARIO CASTRI DOVORIÆ ET CUSTODI QUINQUE PORTUUM PRO GARRENNA NOSTRA DE ESTREIA.

The tenants of Eastry having

A tres honurable home et amy, Monsire W. de Clynton, Conestable du Chastel de Douvre, et Gardyen de Cink Ports, le soen Richard par la soef-

Baron of the Exchequer of our lord the King aforesaid, at this next Christmas, which will be his first term, as is more fully contained in the letters of our lord the King. And therefore we earnestly pray you, as we trust in you and your Company, and in your great humanity, and in the help which you have so often afforded to us and our Church, that you will be pleased, for the love of Saint Thomas, so to contrive and act that we may be paid these said fifty pounds aforesaid, in Canterbury, at this Christmas. Also, dear friend, we have found a bond for a hundred marks, in which you yourselves are bound for the payment of the said hundred marks sterling, which ought to have been discharged at the Feast of All Saints of last year; out of which hundred marks we have heard that Pierre Byne has an acquittance for sixty marks, given by our predecessor, and therefore there only remain due forty marks; we pray you, as before, that you will cause the said forty marks to be paid to us in our chamber at Canterbury in the manner fully contained in the said bond; and we will make for you and your Company an acquittance, of the same form as that which our predecessor made for Pierre Byne, your partner. Please to certify us by the bearer about these things, and others if you desire anything from us. Adieu, &c.

389.

To the most honourable knight and our friend Sir William de Clynton, Constable of Dover Castle, and Warden of the Cinque Ports, his friend Richard by God's

been guilty of *vulpicide*, the Constable of Dover Castle has seized their cattle. The Prior, the Lord of the Manor, asks the Constable to give him an opportunity of coming to terms.

fraunce, etc. Priour, etc. et soi meismes, ove toutz honurs. Chier Sire, pur ceo qe nadgaires ascunes de noz gentz a Estry en nostre garrenne solacerunt ove lour chiens, et pristent en nostre boys un goupil, sicome nous avoms entendu, et pur meisme cele prise vindrent voz garrenniers, apres lour aler, en nostre manoir de Estry, et pristrent grant partie de noz bestes, et les enchacerent desques a Chastel de Douvre, qest en vostre gard, a nostre grant damage; et meismes les bestes, a grant priere de noz amys, unt delivere par pleggages desques a la fest Seint Martyn; vous prioms et requerons, qe, endroit de cestes choses susdites, voillez surseer desques a vostre procheine visite a Canterbire, ou, si cas aviegne en le mentemps, qe nous puissoms entreparler et treter, par conseil de noz amys, de ceste busoigne. Et qe vous voillez maunder as ditz garrenniers qils surseent de tieux duresses desques atant qils aient autre maundement de vous. A Dieu, Sire, qi vous gard, et quant qe a vous apent. Vostre volente, chier Sire, endroit de ceste busoigne, et si autre chose voillez vous de nous, nous voillez maunder, sil vous plest, par le portour de cestez. Donez a Canterbirs le quart jour de Novembre.

4 Nov. (1331.)

L. 11 *b*.

390.—Alia littera directa Thomæ de Faveresham pro negotio prædicto.

The Counsel of the Convent is instructed to call the attention of the Constable of Dover to the fact that the Convent has the

Salutz, com a luy meismes. Sachez qe nous avoms maundes une lettre a Monsire W. de Clyntone, Conestable du Chastel de Douvre, de priere, qil nous face grace de une distresse, qest prise en nostre manoir de Estry et enchace desques a Chastel de Douvre, pur un goupil qe fust pris en nostre boys de Estry par noz gentz, en nostre garrenne, deinz garrenne; pur quey nous vous prioms, qe vous le enformerez pleynement de nostre droit, endroit de cele garrenne,

permission &c. Prior &c. (offers) greeting, and his own self, with all manner of honours. Dear Sieur, whereas lately some of our people at Eastry, within our own warren, were amusing themselves with their hounds, and captured a fox in our wood, as we have understood, and under pretext of this capture, after they had gone, your warreners came into our manor of Eastry and seized a great part of our cattle, and drove them to Dover Castle (of which you are governor) to our great loss, and at the pressing instance of our friends they have now surrendered the said cattle, under security until Martinmas; we pray and require you, that as to the above-said matters you will be pleased to hold your hand until your next visit to Canterbury, or until, if the opportunity occur in the meantime, we can converse and treat upon this affair with the assistance of the counsel of our friends. And (we pray) that you will be pleased to send to the said warreners that they cease from such rigour, until they have further orders from you. Adieu, &c.

390.

Greeting as to himself. Know that we have sent a letter of entreaty to Sir W. de Clynton, the Constable of Dover Castle, asking that he will show us favour in the matter of a distress, which has been levied in our manor of Eastry and carried to Dover, as a penalty for a fox which was killed in our wood at Eastry, by our own people, within our warren, under (protection of our charter of) free-warren; wherefore we pray you, that you will give him full information as to our rights as

privilege of *Free Warren* in Eastry, and that therefore the tenants were justified in killing the fox.

et de la chartre nostre Seignur le Roy, piere cesti qore est, la quele copie nous vous maundons par le portour de ceste lettre desouz nostre prive seal. Nous luy avoms maunde qil veule maunder as ses garrenniers qils surseent endroit de cestes choses, desques atant qe nous puissoms personalment treter de ceste busoigne. A Dieu qe vous gard. Endroit de cestes choses susdites nous certifiez par le portour avantdit. Donez, *ut supra.*

24 Nov. 1331.

L. 12*b*.

391.—Littera missa omnibus tenentibus in Custodia de Estekent, pro recognitione palfredi in novitate Domini R(icardi) Prioris.

The East Kent tenants of the Convent are reminded that it is their duty to supply the new Prior with a riding-horse.

Richard par la soeffraunce de Dieu Priour del Esglise de Canterbire, as toutz ses tenantz de Estkent, saluz, et la joye pardurable. Pur ceo qe nous avoms entendu, qe yliad entre vous grant murmure et contradiccion pur nostre droit qe nous demandoms, de une reconissaunce por un palfrey en nostre novealte apres la mort nostre predecessour, et pur ce qe nous ne voloms pas, si vous facetz ceo qe faire devetz, qe vous soiez greve par destresse ne par autre reddour de noz ministres, vous conseilloms, pur vostre pees et quiete, qe vous facetz issi, endroit de cestes choses, qe nous aioms meillure volente de vous eeser, defendre, et meyntener en voz grantz busoignes, et issint qe nous ne aioms mye cause, par vostre rebellion et desobeyesaunce, de prendre vous par reddour de seignurye, ou par ley de terre. Et ne vous ammervoillez mye si nous soioms a vous estraunge et dur en vos busoignes, tout vous semble il droit pur vous, quant vous averez afaire de nous, si vous de nous tollier nostre droit, et seignurie veulez lever contre nous. A Dieu qi vous donit bon conseil de

comprised in our privilege of free-warren, and as to the charter of our Lord the King, the father of our present one, of which we send you a copy by the bearer under our private signet. We have already sent to ask him to be good enough to order his warreners to stay action in these things until such time as we can personally talk over the matter. God be with you and keep you. Certify us as to the above mentioned matters by the aforesaid bearer. Given &c.

391.

Richard, by God's permission, Prior of the Church of Canterbury, to all his tenants in East Kent, greeting, and lasting joy. Whereas we have heard that there is great discontent and opposition among you concerning the right which we demand of a recognizance for a palfrey at our entering upon our office on the death of our predecessor; and whereas, if you do what you ought to do, we do not wish that you should be troubled by distraint or any other harshness at the hands of our officers; we advise you, for your own peace and quiet's sake, that you so act in this matter that we may with a better will relieve you, defend you, and in your important affairs support you, and so that through your rebellion and disobedience we may not have cause to deal with you either by the strictness of our feudal power, nor by the law of the land. And you cannot wonder if we are distant and hard with you in your matters of business, much as it may seem right to you in dealing with us to deprive us of our right and to behave masterfully against us. God be with you, and guide you to do what you ought to do. Given, &c,

bien faire. Donez a Canterbire le xxiiij. jour de Novembre, lau de grace M[l]CCCXXXJ.

Litteræ consimiles missæ omnibus tenentibus in aliis Custodiis, sub sigillo Domini Ricardi Prioris *ad causas*.

24 Nov. 1331.

L. 12 *b*.

392.—LITTERA MISSA BALLIVIS NOSTRIS AD PRONUNTIANDUM HAS LITTERAS TENENTIBUS NOSTRIS SUPRADICTIS.

Bailiffs of manors are instructed to draw the attention of tenants to the demand for the Prior's palfrey, the patent letter alluded to being that immediately preceding this sealed one.

Salutz. Pur ceo qe nous avoms entendu qe yliad grant murmure et contradiccion entre noz tenantz en vostre baillie, de une reconissaunce qe nous demandons pur un palfrey en nostre novealte apres la mort nostre predecessour; vous mandoms une lettre close et patente, la quele nous voloms qe vous overez et facitz lire et pronuncier as toutz noz tenantz de vostre baillie avantdite, en lez Courtz par laa qe vous quidez qe tieu murmure soit ou contradiccion. Et quant vous averez pronuncie la dit lettre, la retenez vers vous.[1] Et la dite lettre, et ceo qe vous entendez qe meuz puit estre fait endroit de ceste busoigne, nous remandez et certifiez auxi pres qe vous purrez, par ascun entrevenant. A Dieu, etc.

(Nov. 1331.)

L. 12 *b*.

393.—LITTERA SUPPLICATORIA DIRECTA P. BARD PRO WREKKO ET CONSUETUDINE DE LYDEN.

The Prior asks the agent of the Crown at Sandwich to assist him in claiming the right

A son treschier amy et bien amez en Dieu P. Bard Baillift de Sandwyz, le soen Richard par la soeffraunce de Dieu, etc. saluz, et bon amour. Sachez chier amy, qe nous avoms entendu, par ascuns de noz amys, qe ascunes gentz sont entour de nous toller nostre droit, qe nous avoms, des dons des Roys, en nostre maner de Lyden; cest a dire de wrek de meer,

[1] A confusion arises here from the writer's making no distinction between the *close* letter and the *patent* letter which he sent with it.

392.

Greeting. Whereas we have heard that there is great discontent and opposition among our tenants in your bailiwick concerning the recognizance which we demand for a palfrey at our entering upon our office after the death of our predecessor; we send you a sealed letter, and an open one, (the former of) which we desire you to open, and cause (the latter) to be read and published in the presence of all our tenants in your bailiwick aforesaid, in the manor-courts where you believe such discontent or opposition to exist. And when you have published the (open) letter retain it in your hands, and send back to us the said (close) letter, and certify us, as soon as you can, by some passenger, what you think can be done for the best in this matter. Adien, &c.

393.

To his dear friend and well-beloved in God P. Bard Bailiff of Sandwich, his friend Richard, by God's permission, &c., greeting and true affection. Know, dear friend, that we have heard from our friends that some persons are about (!) to deprive us of the right which, by royal grants, we possess in the manor of Lyden; that is to say, of the right of *wreck of the sea*, and of customs duties when they happen to occur. Wherefore we pray you, as we trust in you and for the love of Saint Thomas, that you will be pleased

to *wreck of the sea*, which he has by royal charter.

et des costumes quant ils choent. Pur quey vous prioms, sicome nous fyoms de vous, et pur lamour Seint Thomas, qe vous nous voillez estre amy, qe nostre droit soit salve endroit de ceste busoigne. Kar nous avoms entendu, par noz ministres, qe vous meismes les dites choses avez avant ces houres salvee, et noz dits ministres payez, sicom bon amy del Esglise; et si rien soit qe vous nous puissoms valer en voz busoignes, nous seroms al aide de Dieu auxi prest de voz busoignes avauncer. Endroit de ceste chose et alteres, si rien voillez vous, nous voillez remander par le portour de cestes. A Dieu qi vous gard et quantqe a vous apent. Donez a Canterbire, etc.

(Nov. 1331.)

L. 12 *a*.

394.—LITTERA INVITATIONIS AMICI AD FESTUM NATALIS DOMINI.

A friend is invited to spend the Christmas season at Christ Church.

Salutem quam peperit puerpera singularis. Quanto gratiosius apud vos exaudiri speramus, tanto fiduci-alius vobis communicamus desiderium nostri cordis, vos affectuose rogantes, quatinus, in instanti festo gratiosæ Nativitatis Salvatoris nostri, nos, vestræ jo-cunditatis corporali præsentia consolari. Credimus enim quod in hoc obsequium placidum præstabitis ipsi Deo, nostro statui oneroso vestræ caritatis vis-ceribus compatientes. Valete in Christo, et valeant qui vos valere ac vigere desiderant et videre, bene-placitum vestrum super hiis et aliis nobis rescribentes tanquam vestro. Habemus vobis multa dicere, statum vestrum et nostrum contingentia, quæ felicius in vestra præsentia quam absentia poterunt expediri, Dat. etc.

to stand our friend, so that our rights in this matter may be respected. For we have heard through our officials, that you yourself have already protected these same rights, and have paid (the duties) to our officials, as became a good son of the Church; and, if there be anything in which we can be useful to you in your own affairs, we shall, with God's help, be as ready to promote your interests. As to this and all other matters, please to send us word by the bearer of these letters if there be anything you desire. Given, &c.

395.—Alia littera invitatoria ad prædictum festum. (Nov. 1331.)

L. 12 *a*.

An invitation similar to the last.

Salutem. Quia jam instat Nativitatis Christi sollempnitas gratiosa et passionis Beati Thomæ Martyris festivitas gloriosa, dilectionem vestram corditer requirimus et rogamus, quatinus velitis in istis sollempniis venturis nos vestræ jocunditatis corporali præsentia consolari. Credimus enim, etc., *ut in littera præcedente.*

(Nov. 1331.)

L. 12 *a*.

396.—Littera supplicatoria missa Fratri Thomæ de Guodwyneston pro purgatione J. Schameleys.

The monk of Christ Church, who (by an old custom) resides in the Archbishop's household is asked to procure the liberation

Salutem. Sententia Salvatoris nobis præcipientis incarceratos visitare, nos excitat et inducit rogare vos pro quodam clerico, dicto J. Schameleys, vicino nostro, in carcere Domini Cantuariensis detento, quatinus, cum horam habueritis temporis optimi, instetis erga Dominum nostrum Cantuariensim, ac etiam erga alios

of an incarcerated clerk. Also he is reminded to look well to a written security, which he has, for a debt *in case the Archbishop should die.*

amicos, ut prædicto Johanni purgatio, juxta juris exigentiam, favorabiliter judicatur. Adhuc, bene custodiatis, et aliquando respiciatis, copiam cujusdam indenturæ quam habetis penes vos, continentis quædam quæ debetis instanter et efficaciter petere, si, quod adhuc absit, Dominus transierit ex hoc mundo. Valete in Christo nobis rescribentes tam cito quam commode poteritis, de statu Domini nostri et vestro. Dat. etc.

6 Dec. (1331.)

L. 13 *a.*

397.—LITTERA MISSA FRATRI H. DE SANCTO IVONE OXONIÆ STUDENTI, PRO QUIBUSDAM ACTIBUS SCOLASTICIS CONTINGENTIBUS STATUM SUUM.

The senior student of the three residing in Oxford is told that his proposals are accepted by the Chapter.

Salutem. Lectis et intellectis litteris vestris, quas nuper recepimus, nobis et singulis fratribus nostris nova placida de statu vestro contingentibus,[1] habitoque super eisdem cum dictis fratribus nostris deliberato tractatu, sic ordinatum est; quod illa quæ gratiose per vos inchoantur, mediantibus nostris suffragiis optimis, finem laudabiliter, ut proponimus, sortientur; ac etiam de pensione Domus vestræ, et studiorum vestrorum reparatione, unacum aliis statum vestrum contingentibus, fiet secundum litterarum vestrarum exigentiam nobis directarum. Valete in verissimo Doctore, sine quo nichil salubriter poterit edoceri. Dat. Cantuaria die Sancti Nicholai sub sigillo nostro privato.

(27 Dec. 1331.)

L. 14 *a.*

399.—LITTERA DIRECTA SERVIENTI NOSTRA DE NEWENTON PRO MINISTRATIONE FRATRUM NOSTRORUM OXONIÆ.

The bailiff of Newington near

Salutz. Il vous sovyent bien coment nous vous maundames, par lettre, qe vous duissetz ministrer a

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[1] continentibus ?

398.—ALIA LITTERA MISSA FRATRIBUS H., R. ET J. IBIDEM STUDENTIBUS, UT EFFICACITER COGITENT DE SCOLARIBUS YDONEIS ADMITTENDIS IN RELIGIONEM NOSTRAM. 6 Dec. (1331.) L. 13 *a*.

Salutem in ipso qui lumine doctrinæ suæ mentes fidelium, præ aliis gentibus, illuminat pariter et illustrat. Recepimus litteras vestras, continentes quod vos, salvis personis et rebus, die sanctorum Symonis et Jude, descendistis ad hospitium per nos Oxoniæ vobis provisum; et quod pro victualibus vestris, una cum aliis in via, expendistis xxxvij. solidos de pecunia quam vobis tradidimus, et sic remanent penes vos de dicta pecunia xiij. solidi, in partem solutionis Domus vestræ. Adhuc, rogamus vos, et in quantum possumus ortamur, ut efficaciter cogitetis, cum habueritis temporis oportunitatem, de scolaribus pro nostra ecclesia ydoneis habitum suum secularem volentibus transmutare. Valete in Christo, ad memoriam vestram jugiter revocantes quod milites Christi estis, et sub uno principe militatis; et ideo decet et expedit ut alter alterius onera supportetis; et si forsitan, ex conditione infirmitatis humanæ, aliqua levis commotio inter vos subrepat, sequimini Pauli consilium exortantis: Sol non occidat super iracundiam vestram, sed date locum iræ, quæ de stirpe nascitur viciosa. Dat. Cantuar. *ut supra.*

The same student is advised to look out in Oxford for recruits for the Canterbury Monastery. It is mentioned that the three undergraduates started from Canterbury with fifty shillings as a *viaticum*, that they spent thirty-seven on the way, and have a balance of thirteen to pay their expenses at their Hall.

399.

Greeting. You will remember that we directed you, by letter, that you should purvey for our three brethren who are in Oxford, for their first quarter of a year. Now it is so that one of them is called to God, where-

Henley, a manor belonging to Christ Church, is ordered to provide money and food for the young monks studying in their Hall at Oxford, and especially for an entertainment to be given by Dom. Hugh, who is about to be preferred to the public reading of the *Sentences*.

noz treys freres a Oxeneford, pur le primer quartier Ore est il issi, qe le un est a Dieu commaunde; par quey il semble a nous qe les deux ne averont mye tant de mester come si ils fuissent treys; et, pur ceo qe nous fyoms de vous, nous voloms qe vous lour ministretz de deners, solom ceo qe vous veietz qe meuz fait afaire pur lour eesement et nostre honur, issi qils ne aient pas grant defaute. Et pur ceo qe Dan Hugh lirra sentences, et il covyent qil ait compeigne a son entrer ore a la Seint Hillary, fetes purveaunce et chevisaunce a cele mangerye ceo qe vous poetz, solom ceo qe Dan Hugh, nostre frere, et vous, ordinera. Et ceo qest despendu nous faites assavoir, et nous ordineroms coment vous purrez meuz estre paye; et auxi nous certifiez quey et combien il unt receu de vous le primer quartier. A Dieu, etc.

(Dec. 1331.)

L. 14 *a*.

400.—Littera excusatoria Magistro J. de Offord de non veniendo ad prandium.

The Prior invited to dine with Master Offord at Boughton, is obliged to decline, having divine service to attend and important guests to entertain.

Salutem et seipsum. Quia (h)eri, vestri gratia, nos instanter rogastis ut essemus vobiscum in prandio, apud Bocton, die Dominica proxime futura; quo die oportebit nos personaliter, pro honore et statu Ecclesiæ nostræ, servitium divinum sollempniter in eadem celebrare, et hospites nostros de Curia Regia et alios amicos in mensa nostra consolari, non cogitantes de dicta sollempnitate quando inter nos fuerunt verba mutuæ consolationis, vos rogamus affectuose, quatinus de nostra absentia corporali a convivio vestro nos, pro statu et honore nostro, velitis habere excusatos ista vice. Dat. *ut supra*.

fore it appears to us that the remaining two will not have need of so much as if they were three; and, because we trust in you, we wish you to supply them with such money as seems best to yourself, considering their comfort and our honour, so that they may not be in any serious want. And because Dom. Hugh is appointed to read the *sentences*, and it is usual that he should give an entertainment at his entering on his readings, provide and procure for this feast whatever you can, according to what Dom. Hugh, our brother, and you, can arrange. And let us know how much has been spent, and we will settle how you may best be paid; and also inform us what and how much they have had during their first quarter. Adieu, &c.

401.—Littera directa Fratri H. de Sancto Ivone Oxoniæ studenti, continens quædam contingentia ecclesiam nostram.

27 Dec. (1331).

L. 13 *b*.

Frater Hugh of St. Ives (the Dan Hugh of the preceding letter) is directed to take charge of the goods of the Convent intrusted to his deceased fellow-student R. de Godmersham. He is instructed again to

Salutem. Recepimus litteras vestras continentes nova de dilecto confratre nostro R. de Godmersham nobis et fratribus nostris dolorem inferentia; cujus animæ propitietur Deus. Libros vero nostros, ciphos, una cum pannum, et alia jocalia, si quæ habuit, penes ipsum per vos inventa, custodite. De alio fratre mittendo ad scolas hoc anno, non adhuc plene deliberavimus. Scripsimus servienti nostro de Newenton, quod ipse, ex parte nostra, vobis, juxta discretionis vestræ judicium, ministret pro introitu vestro ad lecturam, de qua nobis alias scripsistis. Et advertat circumspectio vestra, quod fratres nostri libenter aures suas inclinant ut audiant nova de vobis quoad expensas moderatas. Aliud, contentum in litteris vestris, erat de caritatis diffusione; pro qua instanter

look for recruits for his Monastery; and to be thrifty in his expenses. The messenger brings him two swans

laboramus, ut inter fratres continuetur ac etiam augeatur. Valete in Christo, efficaciter cogitantes de Ecclesia nostra, ut ipsa personis ydoneis, sive de Kancia sive aliunde traxerint originem, felicius per Sanctæ Religionis habitum adornetur. Mittimus vobis, ad quandam pitanciam, duos cignos et xxx. gallinas; mittimus etiam vobis et socio vestro species quas

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Christmas, 1331.

L. 13 *b*.

402.—LITTERA DIRECTA H. DE LAPPEFLODE, BALLIVO NOSTRO DE DOCKUMBE DE TAXATIONE TENENTIUM NOSTRORUM IBIDEM.

The newly appointed Seneschal of Doccombe is informed that a deputation from the tenants of the manor has been at Canterbury making complaints of him. The Prior, who evidently does not know whether he ought to believe the tenants or the bailiff, finds it expedient to trust the latter.

Salutz et sauncte de corps et dalme. Sachez qe un Johan de Stakombe vint a nous a Canterbire, la veille de Nowell proschein passe, et nous porta une lettre par toutz noz tenants de Dockombe, en quele lettre fuit contenu, qe vous, puis la Seint Michel et puisqe vous fuistes ove nous a Canterbire, les avetz taxe de novel en cinquante soudz pur un reconissaunce faire a nous pur un palfrey en nostre novealte; et nous ad certifie auxi de bouche, qe vous les taxastes avant la Seint Michel avantdit en cent soudz, des queux cent soudz le l. soudz, sicom il dit, duissent estre payez au Roy, et les cinquante soudz a nous, de lour biens moebles taxes; des queux cinquante soudz, sil vous sovient, nous feymes pardon de dix soudz sils payassent le remenant a Pasqes proschein avener, et si noun qe rien ne vaudreit cel pardon. Et pur ceo il nous semble qe les ditz tenantz nous voillent couvertement deceyvre par tieux prieres privees (kar il conust qe vous rien ne savez de lour lettre) et ceo nous meut destre certifiez sil dit verite ou ne mye, de les cinquante soudz qe le Roy duit avoir, sicom il dit. Nepurquant si ils vous facent seurte suffisant a paer touz les deners avantditz ore a Pasque proschein suivant, les queux sont taxes par vous, donk les lessez en pees et pardonez les ditz dix soudz; et si non, fecetz lever

recepimus ex parte vestra de corona et martirio, quem socium salutetis ex parte nostra, sibi dicentes, ac etiam injungentes, quod cum effectu cogitet, si valuerit, de personis ydoneis supradictis. Iterum valete, de statu vestro per litteras vestras nos frequenter informantes. Data Cantuariæ die Sancti Johannis Evangelistæ sub sigillo nostro privato.

and thirty fowls, together with a share of the oblations at two of the altars identified with St. Thomas in the Church at Canterbury.

402.

Greeting and health of body and soul. Know that one John Stakombe came to us at Canterbury on this last Christmas Eve, and brought us a letter sent by all our tenants at Doccombe, in which letter there was contained, that you, since Michaelmas and since you were here with us at Canterbury, have taxed them afresh to the amount of fifty shillings, by causing them to enter into a recognizance with us relating to the palfrey furnished to us on our entering upon our office; and he has also informed us by word of mouth, that you taxed them before Michaelmas to the extent of a hundred shillings, of which hundred shillings, as he says, fifty shillings have to be paid to the King, and the other fifty to us, from the taxation of their movable chattels; out of which fifty shillings (if you remember) we remitted ten shillings, provided that they paid the remainder at next Easter, and if they did not then this remission was to be void. And whereas it seems to us that the said tenants desire craftily to deceive us by these secret petitions (for he was aware that you know nothing of their letter), this moves us to seek to be farther informed if he were telling the truth or not concerning the fifty shillings, which, as he says, the King is to have. Nevertheless if they give you sufficient security for the payment of all the amount aforesaid before next

toutz les deners sanz nulle autre grace faire, kar ils prient grace del tout desqes a la feste Seint Michel proschein suivant. Et nous certifiez de ceo qest fait en droit de ceste busoigne par le proschein entrevenant. A Dieu, etc. Donez a Canterbire le jour de Nowell, lan de grace M^lCCCXXXJ.

(Dec. 1331.)

L. 13 *a*.

403. — LITTERA MITTENDA DOMINO SIMONI ARCHIEPISCOPO FRO ORDINIBUS CELEBRANDIS PER ALIQUEM EPISCOPUM SUAS VICES GERENTEM.

The Prior suggests to the Archbishop that, if he is likely to be long absent from Canterbury, it will be well to depute some bishop to confer holy orders, and he proposes that the commission be given to the Bishop of Corbavia (of whose presence in Canterbury the Archbishop seems to be aware.)

Suo patri devotus filius id quod possit obedientiæ, reverentiæ, et honoris. Quamvis generali sollicitudine circa curam vestræ provinciæ cotidianis laboribus occupemini, et ad Ecclesiam vestram Cantuariensem, ut firmiter credo, aciem mentis inter alia specialiter dirigatis, tamen hiis diebus vestra corporalis præsentia, a laicis vestræ diœcesis propter infantes confirmandos, et a clericis propter ordines celebrandos, multipliciter affectatur. Et ne tædeat vos si aliqua vobis subscripsero quæ audivi, quia zelus fervens quem habeo pro honore vestro me aliter facere non permittit. Dicitur, quod si vos diu ab Ecclesia vestra Cantuariensi pro arduis negotiis regni decreveritis, pater, absentare, tunc aliquis alius episcopus, in diœcesi vestra onera vestra supportans, deberet, mediante pontificalium operum exercitio, gregem vestrum peculiarem consolari. Eapropter, reverende Pater, vobis humiles preces infundo, quatinus venerabili patri Domino P. Corbaviensi Episcopo, si placet, committere velitis vices vestras, ad celebrandum ordines in Ecclesia vestra prædicta, in instanti festo quatuor temporum, videlicet, die Sancti Thomæ Apostoli proxime venturo, et sic quodammodo cultus divinus, inter quosdam fratres meos non adhuc in subdyaconos ordinatos, poterit

Easter, which have been charged upon them by you, then leave them in peace, and remit the ten shillings; but if not, cause the whole of the money to be gathered without showing farther favour; for they are asking for a respite for the whole sum until Michaelmas next. And let us know what is done about this business by the first person who comes this way. Adieu, etc.

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ampliari, qui, de consuetudine Ecclesiæ vestræ Cantuariensis non possunt epistolas in choro legere, nec in altari ministrare nisi ordinem receperint subdyaconalem. Valeat et prospere vigeat Dominus meus pater et pastor. Beneplacitum vestrum super hiis et aliis, per bajulum præsentium, dignemini rescribere michi vestro. Dat., etc.

404.—Littera mittenda Domino Episcopo Corbaviensi, ut nos certificet si habeat commissionem ad celebrandum ordines in diœcesi Cantuar. (Dec. 1331.) L. 13 *b*.

Salutem cum reverentia et honore. Scripsimus Domino Cantuariensi, quod vobis ipse committat vices suas ad celebrandum ordines in Ecclesia sua Cantuariensi in instanti festo quatuor temporum, videlicet, die Sancti Thomæ Apostoli proxime venturo, et si hujusmodi commissionem habeatis, vel cum ipsam habueritis, per litteras vestras nobis tam cito quam commode poteritis placeat innotescere. Valeat et vigeat vestra reverenda paternitas in prosperitate felici. Si habeatis prædictam commissionem, si placeat, injungatis latori præsentium ex parte nostra quod ipse non vadat ad dictum Dominum Cantuariensem. Dat., etc.

The Bishop of Corbavia is asked if he has yet received the Archbishop's commission for conferring holy orders.

(1331.) L. 178 *a.*

405.—Littera supplicatoria directa Domino Episcopo Roffensi pro monachis ordinandis.

Formula, by which the Bishop of Rochester is asked to confer holy orders on Canterbury monks.

Venerabili in Xpo. patri domino H(aymoni) Dei gratia Roffensi Episcopo, suus devotus R(icardus) permissione ejusdem Prior Ecclesiæ (Christi Cantuariensis), cum omni reverentia et honore salutem. Fratres nostros, quorum nomina in cedula præsentibus annexa continentur, ad certos ordines promovendos vobis præsentamus.

Vel sic: Pater reverende, Fratres Ecclesiæ nostræ commonachos, videlicet A. de B., et C. de D. ad talem ordinem; F. de G., M. de P., et S. de C. ad talem ordinem promovendos, vobis præsentamus; paternitati vestræ attentius supplicantes, quatinus prædictos fratres hoc instanti Sabbato quo cantatur officium, etc.

Vel: Hoc instanti festo quatuor temporum, Vigilia Trinitatis, per sacrarum manuum vestrarum impositione, ad hujusmodi ordines, juxta formam litterarum dimissoriarum venerabilis patris Domini Simonis Dei gratia Cantuariensis Archiepiscopi, etc., quas vobis mittimus, dignemini promovere; ipsasque litteras dimissorias, quibus propter alia in eisdem contentas plurimum indigemus, per manus notarii vestri retenta si placet penes vos earum copia, nobis remittere velitis, nostris precibus et amore.

Vel sic: Ipsasque litteras dimissorias, retenta si placet penes vos earum copia, nobis remittere velitis, nostris precibus et amore. Valeat, etc. Dat., etc.

29 Apl. 1331. L. 6 *a.*

406.—Littera directa Domino Simoni Archiepiscopo pro quadam potestate absolvendi in casibus sibi reservatis, ac etiam pro licentia nominandi obedientiarios qui per ipsum volent nominari.

The Prior attempts in various ways to

Suo patri, devotus filius id quod possit obedientiæ, reverentiæ, et honoris. Quia venerandæ memoriæ Dominus Walterus immediatus prædecessor vester, et

forsitan alius prædecessor ejus, oneraverunt sæpius fratres Ecclesiæ vestræ Cantuariensis, de dicendo vel agendo sub pœna excommunicationis seu perjurii, quorum absolutionem sibi reservaverunt; timens ego de periculo animarum quorundam negligentium, seu nolentium quærere remedium a prælatis suis, juxta formam reservationis prædictæ, venerabilem benignitatem vestram imploro, pro salute gregis michi (com)missi, quatinus velitis michi committere potestatem vestram absolvendi quemcunque fratrem incidentem in talem casum excommunicationis vel perjurii, qualitercunque reservatum, a quo absolvere potestis; et mittatur dicta potestas, si placet, sub tali forma, quod possim committere potestatem alicui de fratribus meis sic absolvendi; quia fuerunt nonnulli, tempore Henrici prædecessoris mei, qui, nec vivendo nec moriendo, potuerunt induci ad hoc, quod in casibus reservatis vellent sibi confiteri. Isti petitioni placeat vobis annuere, tam pro casibus periculosis retroactis, quam etiam pro futuris periculis evitandis.

encroach upon the privileges of the Archbishop; asking: (1) to be allowed to absolve his monks in certain cases hitherto reserved for the Archbishop: (2) to be allowed to remove one of the *obedientiarii* (the Archbishop's nominees to offices) and to appoint another in his stead: and (3) to be allowed to fill up the vacant office of another *obedientiarius*.

Aliud est etiam pro quo vobis preces humiliter infundo, et est istud: Frater . . . . de . . . , per vos nominatus in Sacristam Ecclesiæ vestræ Cantuariensis, ut michi videtur, vir bonus et præ aliis fratribus meis prudens et expertus est in temporalibus; hac ratione motus, vestræ reverendæ paternitati, toto mentis affectu supplico, quatinus, hac vice, dignemini michi mittere potestatem assumendi michi dictum fratrem W. in Capellanum meum, ac etiam nomine vestro potestatem nominandi hac vice alium fratrem in Sacristam Ecclesiæ vestræ supradictæ.

Aliud etiam, si placet, vos rogo, ut velitis hac vice michi mittere potestatem nominandi, nomine vestro, unum fratrem, et Ecclesiæ vestræ Cantuariensis monachum, ad officium Pœnitentiarii in prædicta Ecclesia, quod officium nunc quodammodo vacat, ratione illius onerosi status quem per vos nuper assumpsi; utinam

non sit ad dampnationem animæ meæ. Valeat vestra reverenda paternitas per tempora prospera et diuturna. Dat. Cant. xxix° die Aprilis anno Dni. M°CCC^mo^XXXJ°.

7 Jan. 1332.

L. 14 *a*.

407.—ACQUIETANTIA FACTA BARTHOLOMEO DE LA BARDE DE QUINQUAGINTA LIBRIS AB EO RECEPTIS PRO VINIS NOSTRIS FRANCIÆ, DE ANNIS GRATIÆ M°CCC°XXVIJ°–VIIJ°–IX° ET TRICESIMO.

The Prior acknowledges the receipt of fifty pounds, in

Pateat universis, etc. quod nos R(icardus), permissione divina Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis, recepimus a Domino Johanne Launge, milite, quinquaginta libras sterlingorum, in partem solutionis sexaginta

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11 Jan. 1332.

L. 14 *b*.

408.—LITTERA DIRECTA B. DE BARDE PRO QUADRAGINTA MARCIS QUAS NOBIS DEBET PER QUANDAM LITTERAM OBLIGATORIAM ET PRO QUINQUAGINTA LIBRIS QUAS NOBIS DEBET DOMINUS J. LAUNGE PRO VINIS NOSTRIS FRANCIÆ, CUM LITTERA CREDENCIA THOMÆ DE MEDMYNHAMME.

Bartholomew dei Bardi is thanked for past favours, and the Prior's messenger, Thomas of Medmenham, is introduced to him.

A son treschier amy Berthelmeu de Barde le soen Richard par la soeffrance de Dieu, etc. saluz et chiers amistez. Chier amy, moult vous mercioms et vostre Compeignie del honurable respons qe vous nous enveyastes nadgaires par voz lettres, del paiement faire de les quarante marz qe sont arere de une obligacion; et auxi de les cinquante livres, de quelx nous entendymes avoir este paie a ycel Nowel proschein passe, par Monsire Johan Launge; les queux deners nous entendoms qe vous aiez, au noun de luy, resceu de la tresorie nostre Seignur le Roy, pur queux l. livres le dit Monsire Johan envoit a vous par ses lettres sa volente, par T. de Medmynhamme portour de cestes; et une lettre a Sire W. de Eversdon, Baron

octo librarum, octo solidorum, et octo denariorum, oboli, et dimidii quadrantis sterlingorum, in quibus nobis tenebatur pro vinis nostris Franciæ; per manus Bartholomei de la Barde et sociorum suorum de societate Bardorum de Florencia, pro arreragiis compotorum dicti Domini Johannis pro vinis nostris prædictis, de annis gratiæ M°CCC°XXVIJ°–VIIJ°–IX^mo et XXX°. De qua quidem pecuniæ summa prædictos Dominos Johannem, Bartholomeum et socios suos prædictos, et eorum heredes imperpetuum vocamus quietos. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum nostrum præsentibus duximus apponendum. Dat. Cantuar. vij°. die Januarii, anno Domini CCCXXXJ, secundum cursum Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ.

part payment of arrears of sixty-eight pounds odd from the agent of the Convent in France, the remittance being made through the London partner of the Bardi of Florence.

Vacat, quia ista acquietancia non est adhuc directa prædicto B. de Barde.

408.

To his very dear friend Bartholomew dei Bardi his friend Richard by God's permission, &c. greeting and close friendship. Dear friend, we thank you and your Company heartily for the honourable answer which you lately sent us in your letters respecting the payment of the forty marks which are due upon a promissory note; and also respecting the fifty pounds which we expected would have been paid last Christmas by Sir John Launge, which sum we understand you have received in his name from the Treasury of our Lord the King, concerning which fifty pounds the said Sir John sent you his letters by Thomas of Medmenham, bearer of these; and also a letter to Sir W. de Eversdon, Baron of the Exchequer, in order to move the said Sir W. so that the

del Escheker, pur exciter le dit Sire W. qe les deners fuissent paiez a vous en le non le dit Monsire Johan, sils ne soient mye paies. Et pur ceo qe nous sumes en doute si vous aietz conissaunce del dit Thomas, nostre clerk, ou nemye, vous prioms qe endroit de les busoignes dont il vous enfourmera pur nous de bouche, fyablement luy voilletz recevire et crere a ceste foith. Et ceo qest fait endroit de les dites busoignes, nous voilletz mander et certifier par meisme le Thomas avantdit. A Dieu chier amy, qi vous gard et quantque a vous apent, et vostre Compeignie. Donez a Canterbirs le xj. jour de Janiver, lan de grace M¹CCCXXXJ.

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10 Jan. 1332.

L. 14 *b*.

409.—LITTERA ACQUIETANCIA MISSA DICTO BARTHOLOMEO, PRO DICTIS QUADRAGINTA MARCIS, PER THOMAM DE MEDMYNHAMME.

The Prior acknowledges that the Bardi have paid 40 marcs on account of an old

Universis pateat per præsentes, quod nos Ricardus permissione divina Prior Ecclesiæ Christi Cantuariensis recepimus a Bartholomeo de la Barde et sociis suis, mercatoribus de societate Bardorum de Florencia Londoniis commorantibus, xl. marcas sterlingorum, in

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23 Jan. 1332.

L. 15 *b*.

410.—LITTERA DIRECTA JACOBO FRYSEL DE RESPECTU FACIENDO TENENTIBUS NOSTRIS DE RYSEBERGH DE PECUNIA SOLVENDA PRO PALFREDO NOSTRO.

The tenants of Doccombe, in consequence of bad seasons, being unable to contribute their share

Salutz. Pur ceo qe nous avoms entendu par Richard le Hoppere, portour de cestes, qe noz tenants de Risebergh sont destreint pur les vij. marcs, qi sont arere de la reconissaunce de nostre palfrey, et qe les ditz tenantz tant sont empoveretz par dures annes qe paier ne pont si hastivement, sanz grantement estre grevez, a ce qe le dit Richard nous ad fait entendre;

said sum may be paid to you in the name of the said Sir John if it be not paid already. And because we are in doubt whether you have any personal knowledge of the said Thomas our clerk, or not; we pray you that, in the affairs of which he will give you information on our behalf by word of mouth, you will be pleased to confidently receive him and trust him on this occasion. And please to send and inform us what is done in the said matters by the aforesaid Thomas himself. Adieu, &c.

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promissory note for a hundred marcs.

persolutionem centum marcarum, in quibus nobis et Conventui nostro tenebantur, per quandam litteram obligatoriam factam per Dominum Henricum proximum prædecessorem nostrum. De qua quidem pecuniæ summa prædictum Bartholomeum et Societatem prædictam et eorum heredes imperpetuum vocamus quietos. In cujus, etc. Dat. Cantuar. x° die Januarii, anno quinto regni Regis Edwardi tertii post conquestum.

410.

Greeting. Whereas we have learned from Richard the Hopper, bearer of these, that our tenants of Risborough have been taken in execution on account of the seven marks which are behind on the recognizance given (to secure their contribution) towards our palfrey, and that the said tenants are so impoverished by bad seasons that they are unable to pay quickly, without being

towards the purchase of the Prior's palfrey, the Prior postpones the payment of half their contribution for three months.

nous vous mandoms, qe si ceste dite suggestion soit veroye, qe vous lour donez respist de treys marcz et demie tant ala Pasche proschein avenir, et du remenant tanqe ala Seint Michel proschein suivant si vous ne voietz qe les ditz tenantz ne puissent avant bonement paier. A Dieu. Donez a Canterbirs, lendemeyn de Seint Vincent lau de grace M[l]CCCXXXJ.

28 Jan. (1332.)

L. 15 *b*.

411.—LITTERA DIRECTA MAJORI ET BARONIBUS DE SANDWYCO PRO FORISFACTURA BONORUM S. DE MEREFELDE APUD BIRCHILTON.

The goods of a Sandwich man seized by the Borsholder of Birchington, who is the King's officer, cannot be given up at all events until the next assizes.

As nos treschiers amys et veisins Maire et Barouns del Port de Sandwyz, Richard, etc. et le Covent de meisme le leu, saluz, et qantqils pont damour et de honur. Amys chiers, nous resceumes nadgaires voz lettres, et tost apres altres en les queles fuirent contenuz le gros de la primere; cest a dire, qe Symond de Merefeld, vostre Combaron, ascun temps, bailla a un Thomas Cristemesse de Stonore pres de Sandwyz, ore en Augst ja proschein passe, en nostre seignurye de Brokesende, une summe de pecunie et moebles qi fuierent prisees en tout a xx. soudes, sicome vous, par voz lettres, nous avez enforme; et qe les ditz vint soudes sont arestuz en la main le Borghesaldre de Birchilton en Thanet qest ministre le Roy, et qe les ditz deniers ne pont estre paiez al dit Symond, sanz ceo qe nous ne mandoms a noz Bailiffs qe les ditz deniers puissent a luy estre liverez; vous certifioms et mandoms en bone foy, qe par qantqe nous poms enquerer de noz ministres et nostre conseil, qe chescun Borghesaldre deinz fraunchise, ou son hair, de toutes forffaitures a nostre Seignur le Roy deivent respoundre en chescune aiere proschein suivant, et ne mye avant. Et pur ceo vous prioms, qe les excusacions avantdites aietz acceptez, et nous endroit de ceste busoigne excusez. Et ne disaffietz mye qe nous

greatly distressed, according to what the said Richard has given us to understand; we command you, if this their suggestion be true, that you give respite to them of three marcs and a half until next Easter, and of the remainder until Michaelmas next coming, if you see that the said tenants cannot well pay before. Adieu, etc.

411.

To our very dear friends and neighbours the Mayor and Barons of the Port of Sandwich, Richard, etc., and the Convent of the same place, greeting, and all the affection and honour they can. Dear friends, we lately received your letters, and soon after still others in which was contained the tenor of the first; that is to say, that Simon de Merefeld your Combaron, at a certain time in last August delivered to one Thomas Christmas of Stonor near Sandwich, at a place in our lordship of Brooksend, a sum of money and chattels valued in all at twenty shillings, as by your letters you have told us; and that the said twenty shillings are seized into the hands of the Borsholder of Birchington in Thanet, who is the King's officer, and that the said money cannot be paid to the said Simon unless we send to our Bailiffs to say that the said money may be paid to him; we assure and inform you, in all good faith, that, as far as we can learn from our officials and our counsel, every Borsholder within his franchise, or his heir after him, must answer at the next eyre of the Justices, and not before, for all forfeitures made to our Lord the King. And therefore we pray you that you will consider that the above given explanations are sufficient, and so excuse us in this case. And do not doubt but that we shall be ready for every act of amity towards you, the rights of

ne serroms prest en chescune amiste a vous, salve le droit de nostre Esglise, le quel droit nous entendoms fermement qe vous salveretz solom vostre poair. A Dieu, Sires, qi vous gard, etc. Donez en nostre Chapitle le xxviij. jour de Janivier.

(Jan. 1332).

L. 15 *a*.

412.—Littera supplicatoria missa Domino Thomæ de Aledone pro causa Dovoriæ.

In the suit between Christ Church and St. Martin's, Dover, the Prior innocently asks his counsel (and patron) to make influence with the Judges before whom a hearing is just about to take place.

A son treschier amy Monsire Thomas de Aledone, le soen Richard par la soeffraunce de Dieu Priour del Esglise de Canterbirs, salutz, et la joye perdurable. Chier amy, pur ceo qe nous avoms afaire, de vostre aide entre altres de nostre conseil, pur la cause de Douvre, et avoms jour a Loundres ore a les oytteves de Seint Hillary, devant Monsire Geffrey le Scrop et ses compeignons, Justices del Bank nostre Seignur le Roy; nous prioms qe vous voilletz mettre vostre diligence qe le droit de nostre Esglise soit salve. Et, si vous ne puissetz mye estre a cel jour, qe vous voilletz mander a Monsire Geffrey, et as altres de vos especials de la place, qils nous soient amys. Et sachetz, Sire, qe si ceste busoigne par aide de vous et de voz amys, a vostre requeste previgne ore bon esploit, nous et nostre Esglise serroms le pluis tenuz a vous et a les voz pur toutz jours. Et pur ceo qe vous estes nostre fraire, et pur vous serra fait sicome pur fraire de Chapitle, isemble a nous qe vous devetz par reson, en ceste busoigne et en autres, estre propis, sicom bon frair del Esglise. Et si rien soit qe nous puissioms faire pur vous, ne vous dissafietz de nous en nul point qe vous touchera desore, qe nous ne serroms prest a vous et a voz busoignes esploitier solonc nostre poair. A Dieu, etc.

our Church being secured; which rights we firmly believe that you also would protect to the utmost. Adieu, etc.

412.

To his very dear friend Master Thomas Aledone, his friend Richard by God's permission Prior of the Church of Canterbury, greeting, and eternal joy. Dear friend, seeing that we have work in hand for the Dover suit, with your help among our other counsel, and our day is assigned at London on the present octave of St. Hilary, before Sir Geoffrey Le Scroop and his fellows, Justices of the Bench of our Lord the King; we beg you to apply your diligence that the right of our Church may be saved. And if you can by no means be present on that day, we beg that you will send to Sir Geofrrey and to your other intimates that they may stand our friends. And know, Sir, that if, by the help of you and your friends, this matter come to a good result, we and our Church shall be for ever the more bound to you and yours. And as you are adopted into our fraternity, and as the same services will be celebrated for you as for an actual brother of our Chapter, it seems to us that, as a good brother of our Church, you are bound in reason to favour us in this matter as in others. And if there be anything that we can do for you, do not henceforth doubt that in any point which concerns you we shall be ready, to the utmost of our power, to help you and your affairs. Adieu, &c.

Jan, 1332.

413.—Littera directa Domino J. de Ifelde pro eadem causa Dovoriæ.

L. 15 *a*.

A similar application made to the Seneschal of the liberties of the Convent.

Salutz come a luy meismes. Nous mandames par noz lettres nadgaires a Monsire Thomas de Aledone, qil nous soit aidant vers Monsire G. le Scrop endroit de la cause de Douvre. Et il nous ad remande bonement, qil serra ove vous et nostre conseil a Loundres a nostre jour, sil ne soit destourbe par maladie, et qil mettra le bien qil purra, solom ce qil serra enforme par vous et nostre conseil. Et sil soit en ville, qe vous le troverez en son hostiel, qe fuit a Monsire Humfrey de Waldon pres de la kaye Seint Paul. A Dieu, et vous donit grace de bien esploiter nos busoignes. Donez, etc.

(Jan. 1332.)

L. 14 *b*.

The Bailiff of the Convent in Thanet is instructed to favour, as far as he can without prejudice to the Convent a Sandwich man, whose property to the amount of 20s. has been seized by the Borsholder of Birchington.

414.—Littera directa Thomæ de Rettlyngg Ballivo nostro pro favore faciendo Symoni de Merefeld, ad rogatum Majoris et Baronum Sandwici.

Salutz. Pur ceo qe nous sumes prie, par le Mair et les Barrons de Sandwyz, pour vint soudes des bienz qi sont a Symond de Merefelde, lour Combaron, qi sont arestuz en nostre fee a Birchilton en Thanet, en les mayns le Borghesaldre en cele borgh; vous mandoms qe vous enquerges diligenment de les choses avantdites, et qe le dit Symond ait favour, salve nostre droit, issint qe noz ditz veisins de Sandwyz puissent sentier qe lour priere, endroit de ceste busoigne, lour puisse valer. A Dieu, etc.

(Jan. 1332.)

L. 15 *a*.

415.—Littera missa S. de la Dane Ballivo nostro de Walda ad pacificandam querelam Johannis de Schiterynden.

A tenant who has had his

Salut. Monstre nous ad Johan de Schiterynden, qe par la ou il ad purchasse six acres de terre, les quelx

413.

Greeting as to himself. We sent word lately by our letters to Master Thomas de Aledone, that he should help us with Sir G. Le Scroop in the Dover suit. And he has answered us favourably, that he will join you and our counsel at London on our appointed day, if he be not prevented by illness, and that he will be of all the use he can, after the prompting of yourself and our counsel. And if he be in town (he says) that you will find him at his inn, formerly that of Sir Humphrey de Waldon, near St. Paul's wharf. Adieu, &c.

414.

Greeting. Whereas we have been asked, by the Mayor and Barons of Sandwich, for twenty shillings, the goods of Simon de Merefelde their Combaron, which are detained in our fee at Birchington in Thanet in the hands of the Borsholder of that burh; we command that you inquire diligently into the aforesaid matter, and that, our rights always reserved, the said Simon may be favoured, so that our said neighbours of Sandwich may feel that their prayer in this behalf has had weight. Adieu, &c.

415.

Greeting. John of Schiterynden has informed us that, inasmuch as that he has bought six acres of land, which

rent raised by the Bailiff from fourteen pence to three shillings, complains to the Prior, who commissions the Superior Bailiff of the district to make inquiries and to do justice.

sont tenuz de nous par quatorze deniers de rente pur toutes maneres services a la Court de Grantchert, et issint ad este tenuz quarante annz passez; et noz bailiffs unt destreint le dit Johan de rendre pur chescun acre vj. deniers; et nous avoms entendu qe Jon Marchant tient treize acres, qi sont chargez ove les six acres avantditz, en tout de sept soudes deux deniers; pur quey nous vous mandoms, qe vous facetz enquerer, par fealx et loialx de noz tenants de nostre manoir avantdit si la peticion le dit Johan de Schetrynden soit resonable, ou ne mye. Et soietz avise qe lenqueste soit issi charge, qe nous ne perdoms noz rentes ne nos services. A Dieu, etc.

(Jan. 1332.)

L. 16 *a*.

416.—Littera directa Thomæ de Medmynhamme de recipiendo xx. marcas de R. de Ely pro causa Dovoriæ.

The attorney of the Convent is directed to apply to the London agent for twenty marks.

Salutz. Sachez qe nous enmervoilloms mout qe la Compeignie de la Barde vous unt donez tien respons endroit de les quarante marcz; nepurqant, nous avoms mandez, par noz lettres a Robert de Ely, qil vous face paier vint marcz, de noz rentes en Londres del an passe et del an present; et si de pluis avetz mestier, nous mandez hastivement, et nous vous manderoms ce qe vous averetz mestier pur noz busoignes exploiter. Et ce qest fait endroit de les dites busoignes nous facez assavoir auxi tost com vous purrez. A Dieu, etc.

(Jan. 1332.)

L. 16 *a*.

417.—Littera missa R. de Ely quod ipse tradat dicto Thome dictas xx. marcas de redditu nostro in Londonia.

The London agent is asked to

A son bon amy R. de Ely, etc., Richard par la soeffrance, etc., saluz et bon amistez. Chier amy, pur

are held from us by the payment of fourteen pence of rent in lieu of all services at the manor-court of Great Chart, and have been so held for forty years past; and our Bailiffs have compelled the said John to pay sixpence for each acre; and we have understood that John Marchant holds thirteen acres, which are assessed in one parcel with the aforesaid six acres at seven shillings and two pence for the whole; therefore we command you that you make inquisition by good and lawful men of our tenants in our manor aforesaid, if the petition of the said John of Schitrynden be reasonable or not. And be careful that the inquisition may be so charged that we may lose nothing of our rents or services. Adieu, &c.

416.

Greeting, Know that we are astonished that the Company of the Bardi should have given you such an answer about the forty marks; nevertheless, we have by our letters directed Robert de Ely to pay you twenty marks, out of our London rents of the last and the present year; and if you require more, send word quickly, and we will provide you with what is necessary for completing our business. And let us know as soon as you can what is done in connexion with the said business. Adieu, &c.

417.

To his good friend R. de Ely, &c., Richard by God's permission, &c., greeting and true friendship.

pay the above-named twenty marks.

ceo qe nous avoms grantz busoignes a esploiter en la Court le Roy, les quex busoignes touchent especialement lestat de nostre Esglise, et ne pont sanz grant aide estre esploitez; nous vous prioms et requeroms, sicom nous fyoms de vous, qe vous voillez bailler a Thomas de Medmynhamme vint marcz de noz rentes. en Londres del an passe et del an present, issint qe noz dites busoignes ne soyent desturbes par defaute de aide. Et si rien paiez outre ce qe vous avetz resceu, nous froms, al aide de Dieu, ensi entre nous qe vous tendrez bien paie. A Dieu, etc.

(Jan. 1332.)

L. 16 *a*.

418.—Littera missa Magistro Ricardo de Bynteworth Cancellario Domini Simonis Archiepiscopi pro purgatione J. Schameleys.

A second time the Archbishop's Chancellor is asked to favour the deliverance

Salutem in totius salutis Auctore. Nos de benignitate vestra caritativa confidimus, vos corditer requirentes, quod pro quodam clerico, qui dicitur Johannes Schameleys de Wymelynggewealde, Cantuariensis diœcesis, in Curia seculari quondam dampnato, et carcerali custodiæ

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6 Feb. (1332.)

L. 16 *b*.

419.—Littera missa Domino J. de Ifeld de consilo habendo super quibusdam forisfacturis in tenura nostra apud Birchilton in Thaneto.

The Barons of Sandwich, irritated by the detention of their combaron's goods, have refused to let the Con-

Salutz. Pur ceo qe nous sumes moult troublez par destresses volentives,[1] qi sont faitz a nous par gentz de Sandwyz, pur les chateux un Symond de Merefeld, lour Combaron, pur biens moebles qe, sicome ils dient, avoit ascun temps baille a un Thomas Cristemesse de Stonore pres de Sandwyz, fuitif, le queux bienz fuirent taxez en traillebaston proschein passe a vint soudes, et baillez au Borghesaldre de Birchilton in Thanet

[1] *violentes?*

Dear friend, whereas we have weighty business in hand in the King's Court, which business especially concerns the dignity of our Church, and cannot be carried on except with the help of much money; we pray and require you that you will deliver to Thomas de Medmenham twenty marks out of our rents in London of the past and present year, so that our said business may not be interrupted for want of means; and if (in thus doing) you disburse more than you have in hand, with God's help we will so act between us and you that you shall hold yourself well content.

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of an incarcerated clerk.

Domini nostri Cantuariensis apud Maydeneston tradito, et magnis decursis temporibus ibidem hactenus detento, quatinus, nostri rogaminis intuitu, ipsi Johanni misericordiæ vestræ viscera specialiter demonstretis; pro eo efficaciter laborantes, ut a squalore carceris quamcitius fieri poterit, mediante vestra diligentia, juxta formam Sanctæ Ecclesiæ, felicius liberetur. Valete et valeant qui vos valere desiderant, ac utinam possemus in brevi vos videre.

419.

Greeting. Whereas we are much distressed by forcible oppressions done to us by the men of Sandwich, on account of the chattels of a certain Simon de Merefeld, one of their barons; that is to say, for some movable goods which, as they assert, he at some time or other entrusted to one Thomas Christmas of Stonor near Sandwich, a fugitive, the which goods were taxed to the last subsidy for *trailbaston* at twenty shillings, and

vent procure provisions in their town. This has caused so much discomfort, that the Prior even proposes to pay the value of the goods out of his own pocket, to appease the men of Sandwich.

en nostre fee. Et pur ce qe nous ne avoms pas a lostel ore conseil aplesier, nous queroms, de vous et nostre conseil qest en vostre compeignie, conseil et aide endroit de ceste busoigne; kar yne vient a Sandwyz chival ne charette, de quiel office qil soit de nostre Esglise, qi nest arestuz et destreint desques atant qe le dit Symond soit paiez de les vint soudes qi sont forffautz. Et pur ceo nous mandez vostre conseil sil faut afaire commaundier le Borghesaldre avant dit qil face paier au dit Symond le vint soudes, sil puisse resonablement (de) son chatel purvier; ou qe nous luy donoms de noz deniers demeigne xx. soudes. Et qe vous pensez entre vous et nostre conseil qe nostre droit et franchise soient salvez. Et quant a les busoignes de Douvre, ce qest fait puis le departier de Dantz Estevene nostre Thresorier de vous nous voillez certifier et confortier. Et auxi, si altere chose voillez, nous mandez par le portour de cestes. A Dieu qi vous gard, et vous donit noz busoignes bien esploiter. Donez a Canterbirs le vj^{e} jour de Faverier de souz nostre prive seal.

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10 Feb. 1332.

S. 25 *b*.

420.—Littera Domini Simonis Archiepiscopi directa soli Priori ut ipse præmuniat Capitulum super Parliamentum celebratum[1] apud Westmonasterium die et anno prout inferius patet.

The Archbishop, in obedience to the King's writ, summons the Prior and Chapter to attend a Parliament to be

Symon permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, totius Angliæ Primas, dilecto filio Domino Ricardo Priori Ecclesiæ nostræ Christi Cantuariensis, salutem, gratiam, et benedictionem. Breve Domini nostri Regis Angliæ recepimus in hæc verba.

"Edwardus Dei gratia Rex Angliæ, Dominus Hiberniæ, et Dux Aquitaniæ, venerabili in Christo patri

[1] *celebrandum?*

delivered to the Borsholder of Birchington in Thanet, in our fee. And because we have not with us advisers at command, we ask, of you and of our counsel who are with you, advice and help about this matter; for there is not a horse nor a cart sent to Sandwich, belonging to any office of our Church, that is not arrested and detained until the said Simon is repaid his forfeited twenty shillings. And therefore send us your advice, whether we must direct the said Borsholder to pay the said Simon his twenty shillings, if he can raise as much upon the goods (?); or whether it will be better for us to give him his twenty shillings out of our own pocket. And contrive between yourself and our counsel that our rights and privileges may be secured. And as for the matter of Dover, inform us, and console us, by telling us what has been done since Dom Stephen our Treasurer left you. And also if there be anything else which you require send word by the bearer. Adieu, &c.

Simoni, eadem gratia Archiepiscopo Cantuariensi, totius Angliæ Primati, salutem. Cum magnificus Princeps Philippus Rex Franciæ, consanguineus noster, et quamplures alii reges et principes catholici, zelo devotionis accensi, ad recuperandum hereditatem dominicam de manibus inimicorum crucis Christi, ad Terram Sanctam jam ordinaverunt iter suum, et nos instanter requisierint uti una cum ipsis ad dictas partes, ex causa prædicta, velimus personaliter proficisci. Nos, iter prædictum assumentes multum cordi, ordinavimus parliamentum nostrum apud Westmonasterium, die Lune proximo post festum Sancti Gregorii Papæ proxime futurum tenere, et vobiscum ac cum ceteris prælatis, magnatibus, et proceribus regni nostri, super dicto itinere, et aliis negotiis nos et statum regni nostri ac

assembled to discuss the propriety of a crusade to be undertaken by the King, with the King of France and other sovereigns. The Kings writ recited.

aliarum terrarum nostrarum specialiter contingentibus, habere colloquium et tractatum. Vobis igitur, in fide et dilectione quibus nobis tenemini firmiter injungendo mandamus, quatinus, omni excusatione voluntaria cessante, dictis die et loco personaliter intersitis, nobiscum et cum ceteris prælatis, magnatibus, et proceribus prædictis, super præmissis tractaturi, vestrumque consilium impensuri. Et hoc, sicut nos et honorem nostrum ac tranquillitatem et quietem Regni nostri diligitis, nullatenus omittatis, scientes pro certo, quod, nisi evidens et manifesta necessitas id exposcat, non intendimus procuratores seu excusatores pro vobis admittere ea vice, propter arduitatem negotiorum prædictorum. Et præmuniatis Priorem et Capitulum Ecclesiæ vestræ Christi Cantuariensis, Archidiaconum vestrum, totumque clerum vestræ diœcesis, quod iidem Prior et Archidiaconus in propriis personis suis, dictumque Capitulum per unum, idemque clerus per duos procuratores ydoneos, plenam et sufficientem potestatem ab ipsis Capitulo et clero habentes, dictis die et loco intersint, ad faciendum et consentiendum hiis quæ tunc ibidem de communi consilio, divina favente clementia, contigerit ordinari. Teste meipso apud Westmonasterium xxvij° die Januarii anno regni nostri vj^to."

Quocirca, tenore præsentium, vos præmunimus, ac Capitulum Ecclesiæ nostræ prædictæ per vos præmuniri volumus et mandamus, quod, vos personaliter, præfatumque Capitulum per procuratorem sufficientem, in prædicto parliamento, die et loco in præfato brevi contentis celebrando, intersitis et intersint, facturi in omnibus et per omnia quod tenor ejusdem brevis exigit et requirit. Et quid feceritis in præmissis, et duxeritis faciendum, nos citra secundam diem dominicam xl^ae proxime futuram certificetis, per litteras vestras patentes harum seriem continentes. Datum apud Wyvescombe iiij^to Idus Februarii, anno Dni. Millesimo ccc^mo xxxj^mo, et consecrationis nostræ quarto.

Ista forma proxime præscripta non placuit fratribus, qua ratione Prior scripsit eidem Domino Archiepiscopo sub forma quam continet littera proxime sequens.

421.—Domino Simoni Archiepiscopo.

24 Feb. (1332.)

S. 26 *a*.

Venerabili in Christo Patri ac Domino suo reverendo Domino Simoni Dei gratia Cantuariensi Archiepiscopo, etc. suus humilis et devotus filius Ricardus Prior, etc. obedientiam tam devotam quam debitam, cum omni reverentia et honore. Mandatum reverendæ Paternitatis vestræ, xiij° Kalendas Martii, recepi, tenorem continens subsequentem.

The Prior points out to the Archbishop that his summons to Parliament is *extraordinarium et insolitum*, and he incloses an amended form for the Archbishop's adoption.

"Symon permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus," etc. *ut supra usque ad hæc verba:* "et "consecrationis nostræ quarto."

Istud mandatum vestrum perlegebatur coram fratribus meis in Domo Capitulari congregatis, hujusmodi mandatum tanquam extraordinarium admirantibus, et unanimiter asserentibus esse totaliter inauditum et insolitum, quod Prior Ecclesiæ vestræ Cantuariensis præmuniat Capitulum prædictæ Ecclesiæ, secundum modum in litteris vestris prænominatis; affermantibus etiam quod, de antiqua, approbata, et tanti temporis spatio pacifice et notorie observata consuetudine, cujus contrarii memoria non existit, prædecessores vestri, pro arduis negotiis temporibus parliamentorum tractandis, conjunctim Priori et Capitulo Ecclesiæ vestræ prædictæ suas litteras direxerunt, sicut etiam vos frequenter scribere consuevistis. Idcirco vestræ benignæ Paternitati humiliter preces infundo, quatinus placeat vobis, pro bonæ pacis unitate fovenda, conjunctim michi et Capitulo pro instanti parliamento scribere, juxta formam retroactis temporibus usitatam, cujus formæ tenor talis est.

"Symon permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, totius Angliæ Primas, et Apostolicæ Sedis

Legatus, dilectis in Christo filius Domino Ricardo Priori Ecclesiæ nostræ Christi Cantuariensis, et ejusdem loci Capitulo, salutem, gratiam, et benedictionem. Breve Domini Regis recepimus in hæc verba: Edwardus Dei gratia, etc. *usque ad hæc verba:* anno regni nostri quinto. Quod quidem breve vobis, tenore præsentium, intimamus, vosque præmunimus ut dictis die et loco intersitis, secundum ejusdem brevis exigentiam et tenorem. Datum apud Cherdestok, etc. anno, etc. et consecrationis nostræ, etc."

Valeat et vigeat, Dominus meus Pater et Pastor. Dat. Cantuar. xxiiij° die Februarii.

28 Feb. (1332.)
L. 26 *a*.

422.—LITTERA EJUSDEM DOMINI ARCHIEPISCOPI RESPONSALIS, DE MODO SUO SCRIBENDI OBSERVATO SUPER LITTERA PROXIMA SUPRADICTA, UT ASSERIT, QUOAD CITATIONEM AD PARLIAMENTUM ET SI SCRIBAT SOLI PRIORI UT IPSE PRÆMUNIAT CAPITULUM.

But the usually yielding

Symon permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, totius Angliæ Primas, dilecto filio Domino

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11 Feb. (1332.)
L. 16 *b*.

423.—LITTERA MISSA SYMONI DE MEREFELD DE RESPECTU HABENDO DE BONIS SUIS FORISFACTIS.

The Sandwich man whose goods were seized is asked to cease from giving trouble until the Prior can get advice from his counsel.

Salutz. Pur ceo qe nous avoms mande a nostre conseil a Loundres, davoir bon conseil coment nous puissoms meuz savoir nostre droit et qe vous fuissez sanz damage, de quel conseil nous entendoms avoir respons, al aide Dieu, deinz ces quatre jours, vous prioms qe toutes choses qi touchent nous et vous voillez seoffrier en pees desqes au terme avantdit, et nous vous enfroms bonement quantqe reson en nulle manere de ley veudra seoffrier. A Dieu, etc. Don. etc. le xj. jour de Faverier.

Ricardo Priori Ecclesiæ nostræ Christi Cantuariensis salutem cum benedictione et gratia Salvatoris. Intelleximus litteras vestras per harum bajulum nobis transmissas, quibus rogastis, vobis et Capitulo nostro conjunctim per nos scribi pro instanti parliamento, juxta morem, ut asseruistis, hactenus observatum; asserentes insuper, contra antiquam consuetudinem vobis hac vice scriptum separatim, Capitulum non complectendo. Quibus litteris receptis, fecimus statim scrutari totum registrum quod erat apud nos, tam de tempore prædecessorum nostrorum quam nostro, nec potuit inveniri in eodem, in casu tali aliter vobis scriptum, quam in proximo scripsimus, temporibus retroactis. Miramur etiam in immensum de prudentia vestra, quod de æquipollentibus non videtur vobis sufficere fieri alterum de duobus. Nec intelleximus, pro certo, per scripturam talem honori vestro aut Capituli nostri, novit Deus, in aliquo derogare. In Christo Jesu valeatis per tempora longa. Scriptum, apud Tarente Monachorum, penultimo die mensis Februarii.

Archbishop is stubborn, and replies that of two similar forms one is as good as the other.

423.

Greeting. Whereas we have sent to our counsel in London, to have a trustworthy opinion as to how we may be able to protect our rights whilst you suffer no injury, from which counsel we expect to have an answer within these four days, by God's help, we pray you that you will be pleased to leave everything which touches you and us at rest until the aforesaid term, and we will then do for you all that justice, by any form of law can permit. Adieu.

22 Feb. 1332.

16 *b*.

424.—LITTERA MISSA DOMINÆ PHILLIPÆ REGINÆ ANGLIÆ, DE ADMISSIONE R. DE BEDYNGFELD IN ELEMOSINARIAM CARITATIVE, ET PRO PROTECTIONE HABENDA A DOMINO REGE.

The Queen has asked the Prior to receive a scholar at her nomination into the Almonry School at Canterbury. He obeys her, and asks in recompense that she will provide that the King's officers may not seize the provisions which he has stored up in London to feed him and his train during the session of Parliament.

A sa treschier et noble Dame, Dame Philippe, par la grace de Dieu Royne Dengleterre, Dame Dirlande, et Duchesse Daquitaine, son chapelleyn Richard, Priour del Esglise de Canterbire, salutz, et toutes reverences et honurs, ove la joye perdurable. Treschier Dame, jeo resceu voz lettres le xx^e^ jour de Feverier, pur un Richard de Bedyngfeld; qe jeo et mon Covent, par regard et charite, le duissoms receivre en nostre almoignerie, et qil fuist trovez sicom alteres povres escoliers de son estat. Sachetz Dame, qe je le ay bonement receu en nostre dite almoignerie, et sil voille mettre sa diligence de bien apprendere, il sera, pur lamour de vous, le plus honurez. Et Ma Dame, par ceo qe jeo suy somons au Parlement, qi serra ore yceo Kareusme a Londres, et il convient qe vitaille pur moy et pur ma compeignie soit purveu et carie de loynz, vous voudrey prier, sil vous pleust, qe vous me voudrietz prendre en vostre protection, et auxi, qe jeo eusse une lettre de nostre Seignur le Roy, qe ses ministres ne facent prises del dit vitaille, qest purveu pur moy et pur ma compeignie avantdit pur nostre demoere en Parlement. Et si rien, Ma Dame, voilletz vers moy, vous me troverez prest en quantqe jeo puis bonementes faire. A Dieu, treschier Dame, et vous donit sauncte de corps et dalme. Donez a Canterbirs le xxij. jour de Faverier, lan de grace M^l^CCCXXXJ.

424.

To his very dear and noble Lady the Lady Philippa, by the grace of God Queen of England, Lady of Ireland, and Duchess of Aquitaine, her Chaplain, Richard Prior of the Church of Canterbury, greeting, and all manner of reverence and homage, together with everlasting joy. Very dear lady, I received your letters on the 22nd of February, by one Richard of Bedingfeld, (asking) that I and my Convent, out of respect and charity, would receive him into our Almonry, and that he might be supported as are other poor scholars of his condition. Know, Madame, that I have willingly received him into our said Almonry, and if he will but apply himself diligently to learning, he will, out of love to you, be the more respected. And, Madame, it happens that I am summoned to the Parliament which will be held in this season of Lent at London, and it is expedient that stores, for me and my people, should be provided and brought from a distance. I would therefore beseech you, if it please you, that you would take me under your protection; and also that I might have a letter from our Lord the King, directing that his officials shall not seize the said stores, which are provided for me and my people aforesaid during our stay for the Parliament. And if there be anything, Madame, which you can ask from me, you will find me ready in everything which I can readily do. God be with you, very dear Lady, and grant you health of body and soul. Given, &c.

(Feb. 1332.)

L. 17 *a*.

425.—Littera missa Domino J. de Ifelde ad essendum in Parliamento apud Westmonasterium die infrascripto.

The Prior has been asked by his monks to postpone his journey to Parliament for a few days. He thinks his presence unnecessary on the first day, because the Archbishop will not be there, wishing to avoid collision with the Archbishop of York. The Chief Seneschal of the Convent is urged to be present to advise and support the Prior.

Salutz et la joye perdurable. Sachez qe nous sumes somons al Parlement, qi serra a Loundres le Lundy proschein apres la fest Saint Gregoire, et nostre conseil a Canterbire veut qe nous facoms une dissimulacion, de ceo Lundy desqes a Merskerdy ou Judy proschein suantz, de venir al dit Parlement; kar Lercevesqe ne yvendra mye au primier jour, pur ceo quil ad entendu qe Lercevesqe de Everwyk vendra al dit Parlement. Et pur ceo vous requiroms qe vous ne feignez mye qe vous ne y soietz personalement, pur nous aider et conseiller sicome fait avetz avant ces houres, pur nostre honur et lestat de nostre Esglise salvier. Et sachez de verite qe nous seroms moult conforte par vostre presence. Et si rien soit qe vous nous puissetz enformier en le mein temps, ou de noveles a vous de novele venuz, sil fait affaire, nous voillez maunder par le portour de cestes. A Dieu, etc.

(March 1332.)

L. 17 *a*.

426.—Littera supplicatoria missa Domino Gaweno Cordier pro mercato de la Forde in Godmersham.

The Convent desire a charter for holding a market at Godmersham fordway, and ask the assistance of a Frenchman with influence at the Court.

A son treschier et bien amez en Dieu Monsire Gaweyn de Cordier, Richard par la soeffraunce de Dieu, etc. saluiz, etc. Chier Sire, pur ceo qe nous avoms affaire de vostre aide de perfourmier les busoignes qe vous avetz acommence, vostre merci, endroit du marche a la Forde en nostre manoir de Godmersham, vous prioms, sicom nous fyoms de vous, qe vous voillez prier a nostre Seignur le Roy, qil nous voille pardonier le grant fee pur la chartre; et nous serroms prest de paier le remenant qe fait a paier. Et sachez,

425.

Greeting and everlasting joy. Know that we are summoned to the Parliament to be held in London on Monday next after the Feast of St. Gregory, and our advisers at Canterbury propose to us to make a delay in coming to Parliament, lasting from this Monday to the Wednesday or Thursday after; for the Archbishop will not be there on the opening day, because he has heard that the Archbishop of York is coming to the said Parliament. And therefore we require you, that you do not fail to be there personally, to aid and advise us in the same way as you have done before, for the protection of our honour and of the dignity of our Church. And know of a truth, that we shall be greatly consoled by your presence. And if there be anything in which you can prompt us beforehand, or if any news have recently reached you, if it be possible, send word of it by the bearer of these. Adieu, etc.

426.

To his very dear and well-beloved in God Sir Gaweyn Cordier, Richard by God's permission, &c. greeting, &c. Dear Sieur, whereas we have need of your help in the perfecting of the matters which you have begun, thanks be to you, about the market at the Ford at our manor of Godmersham, we pray you, as our trust is in you, that you will beg our Lord the King that he will be pleased to forgive us the great fee payable for the charter, and we shall be prepared to pay the remainder of what has to be paid. And know, Sieur, that if this

Sire, qe si ceste busoigne par aide de vous prengne ore bon esploit, nous et nostre Esglise serroms le plus tenuz a vous et a les voz pur toutz jours. Et moult nous poyse qe nous ne vous puissoms meismes avier parole qant nous yfuimes ore a Loundres a ceo Parlement. Vostre volente, chier Sire, endroit de ceste busoigne, et si rien altre chose voillez vers nous, nous voillez mandier sil vous plest aplustost com vous purrez. A Dieu, chier Sire, etc. Don. etc.

(Mar. 1332.)

L. 17 *a*.

427.—Littera missa H. de Lappeflode de taxatione tenentium nostrorum de Dockombe.

The Bailiff of Doccombe is asked to be patient with the tenents in their payments.

A son treschier et bien amez en Dieu H de Lappeflode, etc. Richard par la soeffraunce de Dieu, etc. salutz etc. Pur ceo qe nous avoms trove en nos priveez remembraunces tout le tretys, qe feut entre nous et vous avant vostre drein departir de nous, del tax de noz vilains de Dockombe, vous prioms qe vous ne prenez al cuer de ceo qe nous est maunde par noz ditz vilains par lettre, ou dit de bouche, kar la verite qe nous trovoms est ytiele: qe lez ditz vilains fuierent taxes, solom vostre dit, a cinquante soudes et relesse a quarante soudes, a vostre requeste de nostre grace, issint qe les quarante soudes fuissent paiez a nous au Pasqes proschein avenir, et si noun, qe rien ne valdroit cel reles de les dix soudes. Et tout soit il qe vous soietz ore meu et corouce pur lour malice, vous prioms, par ceo Seint Karesme, qe vous mettez cele cause en respist desqes a vostre venue a nous, si vous ne puissez, par bon proces et leal, pruvier vostre cause qe vous monstrez davier contre eaux; et si issi soit, nous voloms qil facent les amendes et soient justices en nostre Court; et sils defaillent al dit jour de la paie de quarante soudes, fecez les egrement destreindre pur tout le plein del tax avantdit. A Dieu, etc. Don. etc.

matter by your help come to a good end, we and our Church shall be the more bound to you and yours for ever. And it greatly grieves us that we were not able to speak with you personally when we were at this Parliament in London. Be pleased, dear Sieur, to let us know, as soon as you can, your will in this case, and also if there be anything which you desire at our hands. Adieu, &c.

427.

To our very dear and well-beloved in God H. de Lappeflode, &c. Richard by God's permission, &c. greeting, &c. Whereas we have found in our private memoranda all the discussion which took place between us and you, previous to your departure from us, concerning the taxation of our bondmen of Doccombe, we pray you not to take to heart all that has been reported to us by our bondmen, whether by letter or by word of mouth; for this is the truth as we gather it: that the said bondmen were taxed according to your statement at fifty shillings, afterwards reduced to forty shillings (at your request and through our favour), provided that the forty shillings be paid to us at next Easter, and if it be not so paid then this remission to be void. And although you be at present moved against and angry with them for their illwill, we pray you, by this holy season of Lent, that you set this matter aside until you come to us, unless you can, by just and honest process, prove the case which you allege you have against them; and if you can do so, then we desire that they shall make atonement and be tried in our Manor-Court; and it they fail of payment of the forty shillings on the day assigned, then let them be distrained for the whole aforesaid tax (without remission). Adieu, &c.

6 April 1332.

L. 18 *a*

428.—COMMISSIO DOMINI SIMONIS ARCHIEPISCOPI DIRECTA DOMINO RICARDO PRIORI AD AUDIENDUM CONFESSIONES CONFRATRUM SUORUM SUPER QUIBUSDAM CASIBUS EIDEM PATRI RESERVATIS—SIGILLATA SIGILLO AD CAUSAS DICTI PATRIS.

The Archbishop gives the Prior authority to receive confessions from his monks in cases hitherto reserved for the Archbishop alone.

Symon permissione, etc. dilecto filio Domino Ricardo Priori Ecclesiæ nostræ Christi Cantuariensis, salutem, gratiam, et benedictionem. De vestræ discretionis prudentia plenius confidentes, ut omnium et singulorum confratrum vestrorum confessiones, in omnibus casibus nobis qualitercunque reservatis, audire, et eos absolvere, ac pœnitentiam salutarem eisdem super hiis, juxta vestrum arbitrium, injungere valeatis; absolutione eorum qui propter hæresim, vel sortilegium si speciem sapiat hæresis, vel violentam manuum injectionem in clericos, monachos, aut conversos, in casibus in quibus hoc nobis competit, excommunicationis vinculo sunt ligati, casu etiam perjurii voluntarii, et majoribus, nobis specialiter reservatis, vobis plenam vice nostra concedimus facultatem. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum nostrum fecimus hiis apponi. Data in Prioratu de Newerk Wyntoniensis diœcesis viij^{vo} Idus Aprilis anno Dni. Millesimo CCC^{mo}XXXIJ^{do}, et consecrationis nostræ iiij^{to}. Præsentibus ad libitum voluntatis nostræ tantummodo duraturis.

10 April (1332).

L. 18 *a*.

429.—LITTERA MISSA EIDEM DOMINO SIMONI ARCHIEPISCOPO PRO COMMISSIONE ABSOLVENDI FRATRES SUPER OMNIBUS CASIBUS EIDEM PATRI QUALITERCUNQUE RESERVATIS.

The Prior who has asked the Archbishop to allow him to receive confessions

Devoto Patri suus filius quicquid reverentiæ poterit et honoris. Reverende pater, non latet vestram discretionem qualiter, vivæ vocis oraculo, vos concessistis michi, vice vestra facultatem absolvendi omnes et singulos confratres meos et monachos Ecclesiæ vestræ,

in omnibus casibus vobis reservatis; sed tamen, die datæ subscriptæ, per T. de E. domicellum vestrum latorem præsentium, recepi litteras vestras potestatem meam valde restringentes, quæ gemitus quasi michi continuos intulerunt; quas litteras vobis remitto earum copiam retinens penes me. Et advertere dignetur vestra sanctitas quod, nescio quin fratres mei, Spiritu Sancto inspirati, accedant ad me causa confitendi vitam suam, et tunc valde tædiosum michi erit dictos fratres dimittere interius desolatos, pro absolutionis beneficio non obtento; ac etiam, esidem fratribus quæ intollerabilis angustia, vos, pro aliquo casu vobis reservato, in partibus longinquis personaliter visitare. Et ideo, pro amore Jesu Christi, vestræ benignæ paternitati humiliter supplico, quatinus placeat vobis michi mittere privatas litteras vestras, continentes quod valeam absolvere, vice vestra, omnes et singulos confratres meos, et monachos prædictæ Ecclesiæ vestræ, in omnibus casibus qualitercunque vobis reservatis; et tunc quietem cordis mei, et per consequens devotionem, poteritis ampliare. Beneplacitum vestrum super hiis et aliis, quamcitius commode poteritis, per aliquem intervenientem renuntiare velitis michi vestro. Valeat et prospere vigeat vestra reverenda paternitas in Christo. Dat. Cantuar. x° die Aprilis sub sigillo meo privato, quia præcepistis michi quod vobis modo secreto voluntatem meam intimarem.

from his monks in all cases hitherto reserved for the Archbishop alone, is dissatisfied with the limited powers conferred by the foregoing letter.

430. — Littera Domini Simonis Archiepiscopi supradicti exponens dicti Domini commissionem quæ scribitur in capite hujus folii signatam privato sigillo suo.

17 April (1332). L. 18 *a*.

Salutem cum benedictione Dei et nostra. Quid apud Lamhith nuper vobis concessimus in memoria recenti habentes, commissionem nostram vobis remittimus, in nulla sui parte mutatam, sed, ad conscientiam vestram

The Archbishop explains the scope of the licence for

hearing confessions, recently granted by him to the Prior.

serenendam, tenorem illius declaramus sub hac forma: quod hæretici quicunque notabiles; seu manus violentas in clericos, *etc. ut in commissione scribitur* injicientes, si læsio fuerit enormis et scandalum inde subortum; ac etiam sollempniter coram judice voluntarie dejerantes; necnon et majora committentes facinora, ubi a nobis sententia lata existit, vel a prædecessoribus nostris et per nos confirmata, ad nos veniant absolutionis beneficium humiliter recepturi; ut quos a malo timor Dei

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10 April 1332.

L. 18 *b*.

431.—Littera missa Domino J. Launge per Priorem et Conventum de vinis nostris Franciæ.

The agent of the Convent in France has drawn upon the royal exchequer for a sum sufficient to pay the arrears he owes to Christ Church, but on application to the Exchequer it is found that the Treasury is so exhausted that there is little chance of the draft being honoured; hence the Prior asks the agent to find a more effec-

A lour chier amy et bien amez en Dieu Monsire Johan Launge, Chivaler, le soen Richard par la soeffraunce de Dieu Priour, etc., et le Covent de meisme le leu, saluz, et la joye pardurable. Treschier sire, les lettres qi vous faites nadgaires a Canterbirs, pur maundier a Berthelemeu de Barde, et a la Compaignie de Barde, et au W. de Eversdon, Baroun del Eschekiere nostre Seignur le Roy, pur les cinquante livres desterlings de noz vins de France, qi duissent avier este paiez a nous en vostre noun de la Thresorie nostre Seignur le Roy, par my les mains de la dite Compaignie de Barde, de vostre rente qe le Roy vous doit en Loundres; voilletz savier, chier amy, qe nous avoms maunde voz dites lettres a la dite Compaignie et au W. de Eversdon avantdit, et les Thesorirs nostre Seignur le Roy unt a eux assigne tieux causes, pur diverses busoignes qe le dit Roy ad abusoignier, qe yniad nulle esperance de paie par eaux de les ditz deners; et pur ceo nous vous prioms, sicome nostre fyable amy, qe vous plese issint ordiner et parlier a la dite Compaignie de Barde qest a Parys, qils mandent a lour Compaignie qest a Loundres, qils nous paient les cinquante livres avantditz, et le

non revocat, vexatio, intellectum præstans, aliqualiter compescere possit. Si vero in præmissis sententia tantummodo fuerit comminata, vobis absolvendi concedimus facultatem. Hinc est quod tria substantilia ordinis violantes potestis absolvere, dumtamen non sit scandalosus et nimius excessus. Ista vobis concedimus quousque revocanda duxerimus. Valete ut vellemus. Data sub sigillo secreti nostri apud Kyngeston in Dorc(asetia) xv° Kalendas Maii.

431.

To their dear friend and well-beloved in God Sir John Launge, Knight, Richard by God's permission Prior, &c., and the Convent of the same place, greeting, and enduring joy. Very dear Sieur, as to the letters which you lately executed at Canterbury, to be sent to Bartholomew dei Bardi and the Company of the Bardi, and to W. de Eversdon, Baron of the Exchequer of our Lord the King, for fifty pounds sterling on account of our wines in France, which ought to have been paid to us in your name out of the Treasury of our Lord the King by the hands of the Company of the Bardi, from your pension which the King owes you in London; be pleased to take notice, dear friend, that we have handed your said letters to the said Company and to W. de Eversdon aforesaid, and the Treasurers of our Lord the King have alleged to them so many causes, for divers affairs, for the King's want of money, that there is no hope of any payment of the said money through them; and therefore we pray you, as our trusty friend, that you so arrange with and persuade the said Company of the Bardi of Paris, that they may send an order drawn upon their Company in London, directing them to pay us the aforesaid fifty pounds and the rest of the arrears of the time gone by,

tual way of paying his debt.

remenant qest arere del temps passe, et qils certifient al la dite Compaignie a Loundres, par lour lettres, de la paie qest livere a eaux parmy vostre main de paier a nous a Loundres, et nous froms as eaux suffisaunte acquittaunce de les ditz deniers receu de eaux en vostre noun. Vostre volente cher amy endroit de ceste chose et altres, si rien voillez vers nous, ensemblement ove vostre estat, nous voillez remandier par le portour de cestes. A Dieu, chier amy, et le Seint Esprit soit garde de vous. Donez en nostre Chapitle le x^e^ jour Daveryl, lan de grace M^l^CCCXXXIJ.

(April 1332.)

L. 18 *b*.

432.—ALIA LITTERA MISSA EIDEM DE EODEM NEGOTIO PER PRIOREM TANTUM.

A new power of attorney is sent to the agent in France and the information and request of the last letter are repeated.

A son treschier et fyable amy, Monsire J. Launge, Chivalier, Richard par la soeffrance de Dieu, etc. salutz etc. Nous vous envoyoms par le portour de cestes une novele procuratie de gardier noz mesons, et noz vins, et noz alteres biens qe nous avoms en le roialme de Fraunce. Et ne vous enmervoillez mye, tout ne soit il mye fait mencion en la lettre le Covent de la dite procuratie, kar lour lettre fuit faite long temps avant ceste. Et, pur ceo qe nous affyoms moult de vostre bone lealte, vous prioms par laffection et lamour qe vous avez a Seint Thomas, qi vous servetz, qe noz busoignes soient esploitez auxi tost com vous bonement purrez, et qe vous voillez le dit esploit a nous privement, ensemblement ove vostre estat, mander par le portour avantdit. A Dieu, etc. Don. etc. Et sachez, chier amy, qe nous avoms mandez voz lettres, qe vous nous baillastes a Canterbirs, a la Compaignie de Barde de Loundres, et auxi parle a eaux de bouche, et a Sire W. de Eversdon, de les dites busoignes, mais nous ne veyoms mye par lour respouns qe ilieyt esperance de la paie de les deniers par vous a nous assigne.

and let them certify to the said Company of London, by their letters, of the payment made to them by your hands to be made to us at London, and we will give them an adequate acquitance for the said money received from them by your order. Be pleased to send word to us, by the bearer of these, what is your will, dear friend, about this, and other matters if you wish for anything from us, together with an account of your state of health. God be with you, dear friend, and may the Holy Spirit be your protection. Given, &c.

432.

To his very dear and trusty friend Sir John Launge, Knight, Richard by God's permission, &c. greeting, &c. We send you by the bearer of these a new authority for superintending our houses, and our wines, and our other possessions which we have in the realm of France. And do not be surprised that in the letter of the Convent there is no mention made of this authority, for their letter was written long before this one. And because we entirely trust in your strict uprightness, we pray you (in the name of the affection and love which you bear to Saint Thomas — may he preserve you), that our business may be completed as soon as you conveniently can, and that you send the news of this completion privately to us, along with a report of your health, by the aforesaid bearer. Adieu, etc. And know, dear friend, that we have sent your letters, which you delivered to us at Canterbury, to the Company of the Bardi of London, and we have also spoken to them by word of mouth, and to Sir W. de Eversdon, concerning the said affairs, but we do not from their answer at all see that there is any hope of the payment of the money assigned by you to us.

1332.

L. 190 *a*.

A steward who has received an order from the Prior to supply timber to a person of knightly rank cannot be present in person and therefore he requires his deputy to see that the trees are delivered strictly in accordance with the Prior's orders.

433.—De arboribus liberandis.

Salutz. Pur ceo qe jay comaundement del Priour, par commission, de faire liverer a Monsire J. de H. six chennes en nostre boys de Cherlewode, en aide dun molyn qil fet faire, et ne puis mye meismes faire la liverie a ceste foith ; vous mank qe en propre persone soiez la, et qe vous luy liverez six arbres, tieux qe soient convenables pur meryn du molyn et ne mye altres ; et qe vous soiez avise qe altre damage ne soit fait en le boys avantdit par encheson de les six arbres avantditz. Et facez signer les souches, issi qe jeo puisse, a mon prochein venir, veer queux maniere arbres ce furent. A Dieu, etc.

17 April (1332).

L. 190 *a*.

The Queen of Navarre (dau. of Louis X.) is assured that a gift of money and jewels, made by her to the shrine of St. Thomas, has been properly received and applied.

434.—Responsio ad litteram Dominæ Johannæ reginæ Navarriæ, de quinque florenis regalibus, et uno anulo aureo cum rubyno, missis ad feretrum beati Thomæ.

A Dame Johanne par la grace de Dieu Roigne de Navarrie, Countesse Devreux, Danguillisme, de Longueville, [et] de Morteys, Richard par la soeffraunce de Dieu Priour del Esglise de Canterbirs, saluz, honurs, et reverences. Sachez, Dame, qe le xvij. jour Daveryl vostre vadlet J. de Couffle vint a la chasse Seint Thomas de Canterbirs, et offry pur vous v. florins realux, et un anel dor, et un rubie ; et voillez savoir qe le dit anel fuit tachez sur la dite chasse, en presence le dit Johan, meisme le jour avantdit. A Dieu, etc. Donez le jour avantdit, lan de grace M[l]CCCXXXIJ.

(1332.)

L. 190 *a*.

An adviser is asked to to come

435.—Littera supplicatoria.

Salutz. Pur ceo qe nous avoms affaire de vous pur certeines choses qi touchent nous et nostre Esglise,

433.

Greeting. Whereas I have orders from the Prior, by way of commission, to cause to be delivered to Master J. de H. six oaks in our wood called Charlewood, as material for a mill which he is building, and as I cannot myself possibly make the delivery at this time, it is necessary that you should be present in your own person, and that you should deliver to him six trees such as are fit for mill-timber, and no others ; and that you be careful that no farther damage is done in the said wood by reason of the aforesaid six trees. And let the stumps be marked, so that at my next coming I may be able to see what manner of trees these were. Adieu, &c.

434.

To the Lady Joan, by the grace of God Queen of Navarre, Countess of Evereux, of Angoulême, of Longueville, and Morteys, Richard by God's permission Prior of the Church of Canterbury greeting, and honours, and homage. Know, Madame, that on the 17th day of April your servant J. de Couffle came to the Shrine of St. Thomas of Canterbury, and offered in your name five florins, known as *regales*, and a gold ring set with a ruby ; and please to understand that the said ring was affixed to the said Shrine, in the presence of the said John, on the same aforesaid day. Adieu, &c.

435.

Greeting. Whereas we have need of you for certain affairs which concern us and our Church, which things

Canterbury to consult with the Prior.

les queux choses ne pont mye bien estre esploitez santz vostre bon conseil; vous prioms qe, si vous soiez deleser, voillez venier demayn a nous a Caunterbirs, entour houre de prime ou bien tost apres, pur vostre bon conseil avier pur les dites choses esploiter. A Dieu, etc.

April 1332.

436.—Littera directa H. de Lappeflode tangens tenentes nostros de Dockombb.

L. 18 *b*.

The Bailiff of Doccombe is requested to deal gently with the tenants as to their payments; and he is instructed not to allow any free man to hold land in the manor, but to assign it all to the *villains* of the Convent.

Salutz et la joye perdurable. Yl vous doit bien sovenier coment vous nous mandastes nadgeres en un roulle les nouns de noz vilains de Dockombe, et severalment toutz les deniers de lour tax de lour bien moebles, qi amounte en gros cent soudes, la copie de quele roulle nous vous mandoms enclose deinz cestes. Et pur ceo qe nous fumes primes certifiez par vous de cinquante soudes, des queux cinquante soudes nous faimes pardoun, parmy vostre requeste, de dix soudes tantsoullement, sicom nous trovoms en noz remembraunces, et avoms receu les quarante soudes par la mayn Johan de Kyngwill, nous voloms qe vous respitez les cinquante soudes qi sont arere, pur lour poverte, desques a la feste Seint Michel proschein suyant. Estre ceo, pur ceo qe nous avoms entendu qe un Jon Hwitheaved, qest frank home, tient de noz terres xx. acres par certein rente et servise, nous voloms qe la dite terre soit baille a Jon de Kyngwill, ou aucun autre de noz vilains, issint qils facent grace pur lentre, solom ceo qe vous veiez qil fait meuz afaire; et qe cele terre, ne nulle autre de nostre villinage, ne soit baille a nul frank home. Et ceo qe vous veietz de faire par bon avisement endroit de cestes choses, vous prioms qe vous nous certifiez a la fest avant dite personalment, ou qe vous facez assavoir par ascun entrevenant a plustost com vous purrez. A Dieu, etc. Donez a Canterbirs le ij. jour de Maij, lan de grace M[l]CCCXXXIJ.

cannot be properly conducted without your useful advice; we pray you, if you are at leisure, that you will please to come to us at Canterbury to-morrow, about the hour of *prime* or soon after, so that we may have your useful advice as to the management of the said affairs. Adieu &c.

436.

Greeting and everlasting joy. You must well remember how, lately, you sent us a roll containing the names of our bondmen at Doccombe, and the taxation of the movable goods of each, which on the whole amount to a hundred shillings, a copy of which roll we send to you enclosed within these letters. And because we were at first informed by you of fifty shillings, of which fifty we remitted ten shillings only (as we find by our memoranda), and have received the forty shillings by the hand of John Kyngwill, we desire that you respite the fifty shillings, which are in arrear, in consideration of their poverty, until Michaelmas next coming. This being so, because we have heard that one John Whitehead, who is a freeman, holds twenty acres of our land at a certain rent and service, we desire that the said land may be transferred to John Kyngwill, or to some other bondman of ours, provided they make an acknowledment for the admission, on such terms as you see is for the best; and that this land, nor any other of our bondland, be not given to any freeman. And we pray you to certify us personally at the above-mentioned feast of all that you, on mature consideration, have done concerning these things; or, failing this, that you cause us to be certified by some go-between as early as you can. Adieu, &c.

12 May (1332).

L. 19 *a*.

437.—Littera directa Jacobo de Etchynghamme tangens boscum nostrum de la Knolle, dè Drovedennes.

Sir James de Etchingham has committed trespass in the woods of the Convent; and the Prior proposes arbitration, rather than a lawsuit, to fix the damages.

Salutz. Sachez, treschier amy, qe pur ceo qe nous ayoms entendu qe yliavoit un devee fait par vous du boys en nostre Drovedenne de Knolle, voillez savoir, qe sanz plee voloms, sil plest a vous, qe la chose soit adresse amyablement entre vous et nous; et ceo fuist la cause pur quey nous travaillames nadgaires de ver en la dite denn ceo qe lya fait, et[1] entendimes qe vous ussez este en pays a tel houre davier treste de ceste busoigne. Vostre volente, chier amy, endroit de ceste chose me voilletz mandier aplustost com vous purrez. A Dieu, etc. Don. en meisme la Denn avantdite le xij. jour de May.

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18 May (1332).

L. 19 *a*.

438.—Littera missa Decano Sancti Pauli Londoniæ pro xl. solidis in quibus Magister J. de Elham tenebatur nobis dum vixit.

The Convent hold a bill accepted by a deceased Canon of St. Paul's, and the Prior asks

Salutem quam peperit puerpera singularis. Quia Magister J. de Elham, concanonicus Ecclesiæ Sancti Pauli Londoniarum, cujus animæ Deus misereatur, tenebatur nobis et Ecclesiæ nostræ dum vixit in xl. solidis, sicut patet per unam litteram obligatoriam quam habemus penes nos, vobis quando placuerit

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18 May 1332.

L. 19 *b*.

439.—Littera missa Societati Bardorum apud Londonias tangens obligationem centum marcarum in quibus tenetur nobis, et centum libras quas Dominus J. Launge recognovit se debere nobis pro vinis nostris Franciæ.

The Bardi are directed to

A ses treschiers amys Berthelmeu de Barde et a la Compaignie de Barde, Richard par la soeffraunce de

[1] quant ?

437.

Greeting. Know, dear friend, whereas we have heard that there was a prohibition made by you about the wood in our drovedenne of Knole, please to understand, that we wish, without appealing to the law, if it please you, that the matter should be settled amicably between you and us; and that was why we lately took the pains to inspect the said denn and what there is in it, when we understood that at the same time you were in the neighbourhood for the examination of this affair. Dear friend, be pleased to let me know your wishes in this matter as soon as you can. Adieu, &c.

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respiciendam; amicitiam vestram affectuose rogamus, quatinus per litteras vestras nos certificare velitis qui sunt executores prædicti Magistri Johannis, ac etiam, si placet, instanter procurare, cum habueretis opportunitatem, ut dicta pecunia nobis, quamcitius fieri poterit, persolvatur. Valete in Christo. De prosperitate status vestri, una cum voluntate vestra super præmissis, per bajulum præsentium rescribentes. Dat. Cantuar. xviij. die Maij.

the Dean for the names of the Canon's executors.

439.

To his very dear friends Bartholomew dei Bardi and the Company of the Bardi, Richard by God's permission

collect a sum due from the French agent; and in the meantime to lend the amount to the Convent. Some goods (probably the year's wool of the Monastery) are offered to them on favourable terms. The Prior is still in doubt about the balance due upon the Company's bond for a hundred marks.

Dieu Priour del Esglise de Canterbirs, salutz, et sauncte en terre, et glorie en ciel. Chiers amys, endroit del obligacion de cent marcz, de queux nous vous escreymes nadgaires par noz lettres, vous prioms qe vous voillez faire traire hors de vostre acounte les parcelles qi sont paiez a nous et as altres pur nous, et nous certifier ceo qe demeurt a paier de claire dette. Et voillez savoir, qe Monsire J. Launge, Chivalier, nous ad mande une lettre close de bailler a vous, et une altre lettre patente desouz le seal le Provost de Parys de cent livres desterlings, les queux il conisseit a Parys, devant le dit Provost et la Communealte de Parys, qil les doit a nous; la quele lettre patente nous vous mandoms a regardier; kar nous esperoms qe par vous averoms aide de cele dette. Et nous promettoms en bone foy qe vous, pur vostre travoil, seiez issi regarde, qe vous et la dite compaignie tendrez bien paiez. Et sil issi seit qe vous ne seiez prestement paie de les dites cent livres de la Tresorie nostre Seignur le Roy, et vous nous puissez eesier de voz deniers demeigne desques atant qe vous seiez paiez de la dite Tresorie, sachez de verite qe, quel meschieff qe nous passoms, vous ne serrez james par nous defraundez. Et pur ceo qe Jakes Nichole, nadgaires a Canterbirs, toucha a nous de accune marchaundise qi touchera par cas vous et nous, de quele chose il vous puist enfourmier pluspleignement, voillez savier qe vous et vostre Compeignie endroit de cele marchaundise serrez devant toutz altres gentz, solom ceo qe nous pooms de la dite busoigne entre vous et nous accordier, issi qe vous veignez par temps avant qe le bargeyn soit fait a nul altre. Endroit de noz busoignes susdites voillez estre amy, et les avantdites busoignes prendre au cuer, et a nous mandier vostre volente, et nous en meisme semblable cas prendroms au cuer voz busoignes soloms nostre poair. A Dieu, etc. Donez a Canterbirs le xviij. jour de May.

Prior of the Church of Canterbury greeting, and health on earth, and glory in heaven. Dear friends, concerning the bond for a hundred marcs about which we wrote to you lately, we pray you to extract from your accounts the separate sums which have been paid to us or to others in our behalf, and then to inform us how much balance remains to be paid. And please to understand, that Sir John Launge, Knight, has sent us a sealed letter to be delivered unto your hands, and an open promissory note, corroborated by the seal of the Prévôt of Paris for a hundred pounds sterling, of which he has made recognizance at Paris, before the said Prévôt and the Commonalty of Paris, that he owns it to us; which open letter we send to you for inspection, for we have hopes that by these means we shall have satisfaction of this debt. And we promise you in good faith, that for your trouble you shall be so rewarded, that you and the said Company shall hold yourselves well content. And if it so happen that you be not immediately paid these hundred pounds from the Treasury of our Lord the King, and you can accommodate us with money of your own until the time when you can be paid from the said Treasury, know for a truth, that whatever loss we ourselves incur, you shall not suffer through us. And whereas James Nichole, lately, at Canterbury, spoke to us of some bargains which will concern you and us about which he can more fully inform you, please to understand that you and your Company in these bargains shall come before all others, as far as we can agree between us in the said business, provided that you apply in time before the bargain is made with anyone else. In the abovementioned affairs of ours please to be our friend and take the aforesaid affairs to heart, and we too in any similar case will take your affairs to heart with all our might. Adieu, &c.

21 May (1332).

L. 19 *b*.

440.—Littera missa Domino Thesaurario Domini Regis Angliæ pro centum libris quas dictus Dominus J. Launge nobis debet pro vinis nostris Franciæ.

The King's Treasurer is asked to pay to the Prior's bankers a hundred pounds due to the Prior from John Launge, who holds the King's note of

Reverendæ discretionis viro Magistro Roberto de Eyleston, Domini nostri Regis Angliæ Thesaurario, Ricardus permissione divina, etc., salutem quam peperit puerpera singularis. Quia præfatus Dominus noster illustris Rex Angliæ tenetur Domino J. Launge, militi, in trecentis libris sterlingorum, sicut patet per litteras prædicti Domini nostri Regis, quarum copiam præsentibus interclusam vobis mittimus inspiciendam, de quibus litteris lator præsentium, ut credimus, vos plenius informabit; quocirca corditer vos requirimus

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(May 1332.)

L. 20 *a*.

441.—Littera excusationis missa Domino Ricardo de Grey pro centum libris sibi mutuandis.

The Prior excuses himself to Dom. Richard Grey for declining to lend him a hundred pounds.

Salutz, com a son corps demeigne. Treschier fraire, jay regarde et entendu voz lettres, qe Daun Robert de Aledone me bailla nadgaires, pur la prest de cent livres tanqe a un certein jour; voillez savoir qe par ceste malveys annee et defaute de bleez nous sumes endentez pur provedoince de vyns en vij^{xx}. livres desterlings de paier deinz la Seint Michel proschein suyant. Et auxi voillez savoir, qe jeo nay terres ne rentes ne chateux de temporalte ne de espiritualte partenantz a moy en severalte, et pur ceo vous prie qil vous plese moy aver excuse en ceste chose pur non poair. A Dieu, etc.

et rogamus, quatinus velitis efficaciter interponere, si libeat, preces vestras, ut Bartholomeo de la Barde, mercatori de Societate Bardorum de Florencia, has litteras nostras vobis deferenti, centum libræ sterlingorum quamcitius fieri poterit ad Scaccarium dicti Domini Regis nostri solvantur, in partem solutionis debiti prædicti, si ipse Bartholomeus, ex parte dicti Domini Johannis, de hujusmodi centum libris eidem Domino Johanni liberatis, tradiderit rationabilem acquietanciam. Valete in Christo, nobis cum fiducia rescribentes si quæ vos contingentia, mediante nostra diligentia, valeant expediri. Dat. Cantuariæ, xxj. die Maii.

hand for three hundred pounds.

Consimilis littera directa fuit Domino W. de Eversdon pro eodem negotio.

441.

Health, as to his own body. Very dear brother, I, have seen and comprehended your letters, which Dom. Robert de Aledone lately handed to me, for the loan of a hundred pounds for a certain term; please to understand that, owing to this unfavourable season and failure of our crops, we have pledged ourselves to the amount of seven score pounds sterling to be paid next Michaelmas, in order to provide wine. And moreover, please to understand that I have neither lands, rents nor chattels, either temporal or spiritual, belonging to me in severalty, and therefore I pray you that you will please to hold me excused in this matter considering my inability.

22 May 1332.

L. 20 *a*.

442.—Commissio Domini Simonis Archiepiscopi Cantuariensis et Sedis Apostolicæ Legati, directa diversis personis, prout in mandato continetur, ad examinandum diversos litteratos, ordinandos per Episcopum Roffensem vice et auctoritate ejusdem Domini Archiepiscopi.

The Archbishop appoints six examiners to test the fitness of candidates for holy orders in the diocese.

Symon permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, totius Angliæ Primas, et Sedis Apostolicæ Legatus, dilectis in Christo filiis Domino Nicholao de Yvyngho Ecclesiæ nostræ Cantuariensis monacho, ac Magistris Adæ Præposito de Wengham, Willelmo de Mondham Sacræ Paginæ Professori, Thomæ Commissario nostro Cantuariensi Generali, et Stephano de Bosco, ac Domino Thomæ de Woghope Thesaurario nostro Cantuariensi, salutem, gratiam, et benedictionem. Ad examinandum diligenter, tam super litteratura quam aliis conditionibus necessariis, quoscumque litteratos nostrarum civitatis et diœcesis Cantuariensium ac jurisdictionum immediatarum, et alios quoscunque, titulos sufficientes et litteras suorum diœcesanorum dimissorias exhibentes, ad ordines quoscunque, sacros vel non sacros, promoveri volentes, et eos quos in hac parte inveneritis admittendos ac venerabili fratri nostro Domino H. Dei gratia Roffensi Episcopo ad hujusmodi ordines præsentandos, vestram in præmissis conscientiam onerantibus, vobis omnibus, sex quatuor, aut tribus vestrum, quos ob hoc præsentes esse contigerit, committimus vices nostras. Mandantes quatinus, de nominibus, titulis, litteris dimissoriis per vos admissorum et præsentatorum nos reddatis postquam ordinati fuerint per vos sic præsentati, sine moræ dispendio certiores. Dat. apud Wyveliscombe xj. Kal. Junii, anno Dni. M°CCC^mo°XXXIJ°, et consecrationis nostræ iiij^to.

443.—Littera missa Domino Simoni Archiepiscopo de notificatione inhibitionis quæ tangit processum inter ipsum et Abbatem et Conventum Sancti Augustini. (May 1332.) L. 20 *a*.

Devoto patri suus filius quicquid reverentiæ poterit et honoris. Pater reverende, inspexi litteras patentes, michi dilatas per Commissarium vestrum Cantuariensem, vos specialiter contingentes, quas in præsentia notariorum et aliorum, juxta consilium peritorum, feci publicari in Ecclesiæ vestra Cantuariensi ac etiam in Ecclesia Sancti Augustini, et, de assensu et consilio dicti Commissariii vestri et aliorum clericorum, prædictas litteras retineo penes me quamdiu placuerit vestræ paternitati, ipsarum copiam, sub sigillo meo privato signatam, vobis transmittens. Et hæc est una causa quare hujusmodi litteræ in custodia mea retinentur: quia monachi dicti Monasterii Sancti Augustini petebant in notificatione harum litterarum quod, juxta juris exigentiam, possent dictas litteras copiare, sed voluntas sic petentium, die datæ præsentium, ob temporis brevitatem, minime fuerat adimpleta. Adhuc pater, vobis refero quod quidam clericus residens in Curia Romana michi scripsit: quod iiij^to^ die Maii Dominus Papa in Consistorio injunxit monachis Sancti Augustini, quod ipsi in proximo Consistorio exhibeant originale privilegium exemptionis super Monasterio suo; de qua materia, vos ut credo non latente, dignemini plenius scribere michi vestro. Valeat in Christo Dominus meus, pro cujus salute tam corporis quam animæ preces offero salutares. Dat. etc.

The Prior informs the Archbishop, who is at war with the monks of St. Augustine's on the question of their exemption from episcopal jurisdiction, that he has caused certain letters of the Archbishop to be publicly read and has retained the originals in order to give the Augustinians an opportunity of making a copy.

11 June (1332).

L. 20 *a*.

444.—Littera missa servienti nostro de Newenton, pro ministratione fratrum nostrorum Oxoniæ commorantium usque ad certum tempus.

The Prior, proposing to send for the Canterbury students who live in their Hall at Oxford (at the beginning of the Long Vacation), requires the Bailiff of Newington to supply them with food as usual in the meantime.

Salutz. Pur ceo qe nous sumes en propos de remandier noz fraires qi sont a Oxinford a lostel contre la feste Seint Pierre et Seint Paul proschein suyant, nous voloms qe, pur ce qe vous avez si bien a comence, qe, pur vostre honur et nostre amour, vous facez continuaunce de eux ministrier desqes a la feste avantdite. Et si vous ne avez mye del nostre, fetes chevissaunce par ascun de voz amys, desqes atant qe vous puissetz levier del nostre, et nous vous froms resonable allowaunce. A Dieu, etc. Don. a Canterbirs le xj^e^ jour de Juyn desouz nostre prive seal.

(June 1332.)

L. 20 *b*.

445.—Responsio ad litteram Dominæ Isabellæ de Hastyngg de diversis servitiis debetis per ipsam manerio nostro de Bockyng.

The Lady Isabella de Hastings has land at Bocking in the fee of the Convent, and has been called upon to pay the whole of the services upon a certain part of the manor, although she does not own the whole of the land. The Bailiff will make inquiries.

A Dame Isabelle de Hastyngg, Richard, etc. salutz, etc. Dame, nous avoms regarde et entendu voz lettres, les queux nous recumes par vostre messagier nadgaires a Canterbirs, en les queles furent contenuz, qe noz Bailiffs de Bockyngg vous demandent diverses services pur certein tenementz qe vous tenetz a Gosfeld en nostre fee, dont altres, par vostre dit, tiegnent partie de les terres qi deivent meismes tieux services, et noz dites Bailiffs demandent de vous lentier de les ditz services. Voillez savoir, Dame, qe nous avoms maunde a nostre Bailliff de nostre manoir de Bockyngg qil enquerge ceo qe vous faire devetz de reson endroit de ceste busoigne, et qil vous face grace, et nemye altre chose mesque ceo qe reson et ley veut et demande. A Dieu, etc.

444.

Greeting. Whereas we propose to recall home our brethren, who are in Oxford, against the feast of Saints Peter and Paul next coming, we desire, seeing how well you have begun, that for our honour and out of love to us, you will continue to supply them up to the aforesaid feast. And if you have no means of ours in hand, borrow from some of your friends until the time when you may be able to gather some of ours, and we will make you a reasonable allowance (for interest). Adieu.

445.

To the Lady Isabella de Hastings, Richard &c. Greeting &c. Madame, we have read and comprehended your letters which we lately received by your messenger at Canterbury, in which it was contained, that our Bailiffs at Bocking demand of you certain services for certain tenements which you hold at Goosefield in our fee, and that other persons, as you say, hold a part of the lands which owe these services, and yet that our Bailiffs claim the whole of these services from you only. Be pleased to understand, Madame, that we have sent to the Bailiff of our manor of Bocking, directing him to enquire how much in justice you ought to perform in this case, and to do you favour, and nought else but what justice and law require and demand. Adieu, &c.

(June 1332.)
L. 20 *b*.

446.—LITTERA MISSA E. GANGE, BALLIVO NOSTRO DE BOCKYNGG, DE EODEM NEGOTIO.

The instructions sent to the Bailiff of Bocking in the matter of the complaint made by the Lady Isabel de Hastyngs.

Salutz. Pur ceo qe nous avoms entenduz par la querele Dame Isabelle de Hastyngg, qe hom luy fest duresses et destresses pur diverses services qele doit pur certeins tenementz qele tient de nous a Gossefeld, dont y liad altercacion entre meisme cele Isabelle et alteres tenantz qi teignent partie de les terres dont les ditz services sourdent; vous maundons, qe vous enquergez ou facez enquere si la destresse qest prise soit prise solom la ley; kar la Dame nous maunda nadgaires par lettre, qe alteres de noz tenantz tiegnent tenementz qi sont obligez en parcelles ovesqe luy a meismes tieux services com noz ditz Bailliffs luy demandent. Et pur ceo qe la dite Dame nous prie grace de la deliveraunce de sa destresse, nous voloms qe, soloms vostre descrecion, qe [1] la dite destresse soit delivere, as gages ou a plegges de noz tenantz demeigne, desques a un certein jour, affaire ceo qe faire doit, ou a recouvrier la dite destresse si ele fest le contraire au jour donez par vous, a peril de les ditz mainpurvours. Et, coment qil soit entre alteres choses, soiez avise qe nous ne soyoms de noz rentes ne de noz services defraude, ne nostre Esglise disherite. Endroit de cestes choses nous maundez et certifiez a meuz com vous purrez par le proschein entrevenant. A Dieu, etc.

(17 June 1332.)
L. 20 *b*.

447.—LITTERA DIRECTA BARTHOLOMEO DE BARDE PRO LANA NOSTRA SIBI VENDENDA, ET DE CENTUM MARCIS QUAS PRÆDECESSOR NOSTER SIBI MUTUAVIT, AC DE QUINQUAGINTA LIBRIS QUAS DOMINUS J. LAUNGE NOBIS DEBET PRO VINIS NOSTRIS FRANCIÆ.

The Prior offers to the Bardi

A son chier et bien amez en Dieu Berthelmeu de Barde, de la Compeignie de Barde, Richard par la

[1] *qe*, is redundant.

446.

Greeting. Whereas we have understood by the complaint of the Lady Isabella de Hastings that she is seized and distrained for divers services which are due from her for certain tenements which she holds of us at Goosefield, concerning which there is a dispute between this Isabella and other tenants who occupy a part of the lands from whence these services issue; we require that you make enquiry, or cause enquiry to be made, if the execution which is put in is levied according to law; for the Lady lately sent us word by letter that other of our tenants occupy tenements which are severally bound, together with herself, to perform such services as those which our Bailiffs are now demanding from her. And as the said Lady asks from us as a favour the relaxation of the said execution, we wish that, if your discretion assent, the execution should be relaxed on the security or pledges of our own tenants until a fixed day, given to secure that she shall do all that she ought to do, under the penalty if she do the contrary of a new imposition of the execution by you on the day assigned, at the risk of the said sureties. And, however it may happen in other things, be careful that we be not defrauded of our rents nor of our services, nor our Church dispossessed. Send to us and inform us as to these things as best you may, by the first go-between. Adieu, &c.

447.

To his dear and well-beloved in God Bartholomew dei Bardi, of the Company of the Bardi, Richard by God's

the preference in the purchase of some wool; he asks for an account of the balance due on the old debt of a hundred pounds; and he asks what hope he may entertain of being paid Launge's debt out of the King's Treasury.

soeffrance, etc. saluz, et sauncte de corps et dalme. Sachez qe divers marchantz viegnent a nous pur nos laynes, cest a dire pur xviij. saks; mais pur ceo qe nous avoms promis a vous qe vous serrez les plus-proscheins si vous voillez donier al tant com alteres, nous avoms respite la vente de les dites laynes desques atant qe nous ayoms respons de vous. Et voillez saver qe nous sumes tant chargez de divers paiements, et nomeement de la disme le Pape, qe ycovient qe nous soioms certifiez de vostre volente endroit de ceste busoigne entre ci et Demeigne proschein avenier. Et vous prioms qe qant a la counte de les cent marcz qe nostre predecessour vous presta, qe vous nous voillez par le portour de cestes, en escript, maundier ceo qe vous devetz a nous ou nous a vous de clair. Et si vous plest auxi nous voillez maundier si lyad nulle esperaunce de les cinquante livres dont nous entreparlames nadgaires de la dette qe Monsire Jon Launge nous doit de noz vins de Fraunce, les queux cinquante livres duissent estre paiez a vous de la Tresorie nostre Seignur le Roy, par lassignement le dit Monsire Jon. A Dieu qi vous gard et quantqe a vous et a vostre compeignie appent. Donez a Canterbire le xvij. jour de Juyn.

(June 1332.)

L. 21 *a*.

448.—LITTERA MISSA SERVIENTI NOSTRO DE HOLINGBOURNE PRO FALCONE EPISCOPI LONDONIENSIS.

A tenant of Holingbourne has caught a falcon belonging to the Bishop of London, and therefore the Prior orders his

Salutz. Pur ceo qe nous avoms entendu, par nostre chier et bon amy Levesqe de Loundres, qe un Jon Wyvelesty, nostre tenant de Holingbourne, nadgaires prist et emporta un falcon le dit Evesqe en celes parties de Holingbourne; la quele prise il ne purra mye bien dedire, kar le dit Jon prist le falcon avantdit de Roggier fitz Thomas le Grey, en Holingbourne le Meskerdy en la veille Seint Barnabe Lapostle

permission, &c., greeting, and health of body and soul. Know, that various merchants have been to us about our wool, amounting to eighteen packs; but since we have promised to you that you shall have the refusal of it, if you are willing to pay as much as the others, we have put off the sale of the said wool until such time as we have an answer from you. And please to understand, that we are so charged with various payments, and especially with the Pope's tenth, that it is expedient that we should be certified of your intentions in this matter between now and next Sunday. And we beg you that, touching the cross-account for the hundred marks which our predecessor lent you, you will please, by the present bearer, send to us in writing what is the balance owing from you to us, or from us to you. And also, if you please, send us word if there be any hope of the fifty pounds due upon the debt which Sir John Launge owes us for our French wines (this debt we have spoken of before), which fifty pounds should have been paid to you from the Treasury of our Lord the King upon a draft of the said Sir John's. God be with you, and keep you, and all belonging to you and your Company. Given, &c.

448.

Greeting. Whereas we have heard from our dear and good friend the Bishop of London, that one John Wyvelesty, our tenant at Hollingbourne, lately stole and carried off a falcon belonging to the said Bishop, in the neighbourhood of Hollingbourne aforesaid; which theft he cannot indeed deny, seeing that the said John took the said falcon from Roger the son of Thomas the Grey in Hollingbourne, on Wednesday the Eve of St.

Official in the manor to put pressure upon him to compel him to restore the bird to its owner.

proschein passe, et cestes choses tesmoignent Geffrey Somerey de Boyton, William le Taylour, W. Harpour, Adam Bakere, Will Wyot, Jon Smyth, Roggier Passem(ore), Richard Fraunceys, Sampson son fitz, Symond fitz Johan le Deghere, Symond Batecok, Estevene Boghuere, et Thomas le Grey; pur quey nous enjoynoms et commandoms qe vous facez le dit Jon destreindre et arcier, par chescune manere veye qe vous poetz et savetz, qe le dit falcon soit restore al dit Evesqe. Et, si vous voiez qil soit mestier, conseillez de ceste chose a Jon de Isbergh, nostre Bailliff, et as alteres sages de vostre conseil, issi qe ceste chose soit adresse, sicome vous voletz qe nostre honur soit salve, kar nous avoms ceste chose trop a cuer. Et ceo qe vous fetes et faire purrez endroit de ceste busoigne nous fetes certifier auxi tost come vous bonement purrez. A Dieu. Donez a Canterbire le xx^e^ jour de Juyn, desouz nostre prive seal.

(June 1332.)

L. 21 *a*.

449.—Qualiter Dominus H(aymo) Episcopus Roffensis, vice Domini Simonis Cantuariensis, in Ecclesia sua Cantuariensi ordines celebravit et nobis missit litteras suas super hujusmodi officio exercendo.

A record of the fact that on a certain day the Bishop of Rochester celebrated holy orders in the Infirmary of Canterbury Cathedral, in all things following

Memorandum quod vigilia Sanctæ Trinitatis, anno Domini M^o^CCC^mo^XXXIJ^do^, Dominus Haymo Episcopus Roffensis, facta protestatione in Ecclesia Cantuariensi quod nichil attemptaret in præjudicium Ecclesiæ suæ, et præhabita magna altercatione super expensis sibi ministrandis per Dominum Cantuariensem, et hujusmodi altercatione juxta peritorum consilium modo amicabili sedata, auctoritate dicti Domini Cantuariensis celebravit ordines generales in Capella Infirmariæ Ecclesiæ Christi, de consensu Domini Prioris et aliorum fratrum ejusdem loci. Et dictus Episcopus Roffensis in

Barnabas the Apostle last passed, and Geoffrey Somerey of Boyton, William the Tailor, William Harper, Adam Baker, Will Wyot, John Smith, Roger Pass(more), Richard Francis, Sampson his son, Simond Johnson the Ganger, Simon Batcock, Stephen Bowyer, and Thomas the Grey all testify to this; wherefore we enjoin and command that you cause the said John to be distrained and pressed in all manner of ways that you know and can, so that the said falcon may be restored to the said Bishop. And, if you see that it be necessary, consult in this matter John of Isebergh our Bailiff, and other prudent men among your advisers, so that this fault may be remedied, as you desire that our honour should be saved, for we have this matter very much at heart. And what you do, and what you can do about this business, let us know as soon as you can conveniently. Adieu, &c. Given, &c., under our private signet.

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prædicta vigilia proposuit celebrasse hujusmodi ordines apud Cantuariam in Ecclesia Sancti Gregorii, sed ab isto proposito, mediantibus litteris dicti Prioris, desistebat, in quibus fuerat contentum quod de antiqua, approbata, et tanti temporis spatio pacifice et notorie observata consuetudine, cujus contrarii memoria non existit, Archiepiscopi Cantuarienses, vel eorum vices gerentes in exercendo officia pontificalia, non alibi in civitate Cantuaria quam in matrice Ecclesia solebant ordines celebrare. Propter hujusmodi laudabilis consuetudinis observantiam, et quietem pacis inter fratres Ecclesiæ Cantuariensis supradictæ confovendam, dictus Episcopus Roffensis, sicut prædicitur, ordines celebravit, ac etiam in dicta vigilia mane nobis misit litteras suas in forma subscripta.

the old customs, and refraining from innovations which he proposed to introduce.

(June 1332.)

L. 21 *a*.

450.—Littera Domini Haymonis Roffensis Episcopi.

Certificate of the Bishop as to the above-mentioned ordination.

Reverende Domine, nostis quod secundum varietatem temporum variantur statuta humana. Dominus Cantuariensis vero antiquum modum committendi Episcopis Roffensibus hac vice commutans, quod vos latere non deberet, et idcirco modum exercendi ejus officium, de consilio peritorum, hac vice censuimus commutandum. Unde placeret nobis quod Dominus et Pater noster communis antiquum modum in committendo et nobis satisfaciendo pro hujusmodi commissione observasset. Decuisset quod super hoc hesterno die inter nos tractatum communem habuissemus. Placet tamen nobis in Ecclesia Cathedrali, sicut fieri consuevit, ordines celebrare, dum tamen modus consuetus penes nos observetur, propter quod petimus quod turbatio fratrum nobis non imputetur.

(June 1332.)

L. 21 *a*.

451.—Littera missa Domino R(icardo) Priori per Episcopum Roffensem super modo participationis crismatis, ac etiam crismatis petitione consueta.

The Bishop of Rochester explains to the Prior the procedure in cases where chrism is asked for from a bishop for use out of his diocese. In the case of Canterbury, where the Archbishop is

Domine reverende, licet sigillum vestrum privatum personæ nostræ in hiis quæ nobis scribere placet fidem faciat sufficientem, non tamen in actu judiciali seu sollempni, sicut pro participatione crismatis, sufficit, ut videtur; quia extra diœcesim distribui non debet petentibus absque litteris testimonialibus diœcesani a quo petitur sede plena, seu Capituli sede vacante. Solent semper Domini Archiepiscopi Cantuarienses, a confectione crismatis excusati, quando in diœcesi vel deprope sunt præsentes pro hujusmodi distributione scribere; et, sede Cantuariensi vacante, Dominus Prior, a nullo excitatus, sed vacationem in litteris suis inserens,[1] scribere consuevit; et hoc mutuo vicissitudinis

[1] *inserere*, MS.

obtentu. Similiter quum Dominus Archiepiscopus visitat provinciam suam in remotis, Dominus Prior, sub magno sigillo suo, pro informatione Episcopi crisma distribuentis, et securitate nuntii illud recipientis, semper scribere solet. Dominationi vestræ non displiciat modus scribendi, sed morosa tardatio deportatoris pallii, tam vobis et nobis quam aliis zelantibus honorem Ecclesiæ Cantuariensis, debet displicere. Si quid placet erga nos, nobis præcipiatis. In adversantibus et regimine constantiam et perseverentiam discretas vobis Deus largiatur, quia moribus multorum deservire est difficillimum. Script. apud Hallyng sub sigillo nostro privato.

excused from the confection of chrism, the rule differs from that of other places.

452.—Vendicatio Roffensis Episcopi quo ad procurationem quando vocatus est ut celebret ordines in Ecclesia Cantuariensi, sede plena vel vacante.[1]

2 April 1254 in register of June 1332. L. 21 *a*.

Bonefacius permissione divina Cantuariensis Archiepiscopus, totius Angliæ Primas, venerabili in Christo Fratri L(aurentio) Dei gratia Roffensi Episcopo, salutem, et sincerum fraternæ dilectionis in Domino incrementum. Occupati circa visitationem provinciæ nostræ, Fraternitati vestræ rogando commitimus ut, hac instanti die Jovis in Cœna Domini, apud Cantuariam personaliter accedentes, officium celebretis ibidem consecrando crisma sanctum, et reconciliando pœnitentes, et alia exercendo quæ die illa pontificiali ministerio indigent, vice nostra. Nos autem Thesaurario nostro mandavimus ut viginti solidos sterlingorum, in quibus in simili casu et pari causa nos et prædecessores

Archbishop Boniface appoints the Bishop of Rochester to be his deputy in all episcopal functions on one certain occasion, assigning to him as his fee, according to ancient custom, the sum of

[1] This and the articles which precede and follow it, written upon a small separate slip of parchment, are here inserted in the register; as will be seen, out of their order of date, but quite in place as regards their subject matter.

twenty shillings.

nostri consuevimus prædecessoribus vestris providere, vobis assignet et exsolvat, juxta vestræ beneplacita voluntatis; quibus velitis esse contenti, cum prisca consuetudo novitatum exactiones abhorreat in hoc casu, nisi forte tempora moderna priscæ consuetudini non correspondeant in annona, quod, juxta æquitatem, si necessitas exigerit, parati sumus considerare. Data apud Newewerk ij° Non. Aprilis anno Dni. M°CC°LIIIJ°.

1272. 1332.)

L. 21 *a*.

453.—Memorandum:

A memorandum of the process by which the Bishop of Rochester was brought to Canterbury for the purpose of conferring holy orders, during the vacancy of the See after the resignation of Archbishop Kilwardby.

Quod vacante sede Cantuariensi per vocationem ad Curiam Romanam Roberti de Kylewerdeby, quondam Cantuariensis Archiepiscopi, contentio fuit inter Thomam Priorem Cantuariensem et Capitulum ex parte una, et Archidiaconum Cantuariensem ex altera, quis eorum Episcopum Roffensem ad celebrandum ordines in diœcesi Cantuariensi procurare deberet, et ad cujus instantiam dictus Episcopus venire deberet. Tandem concordatum fuit, quod Prior et Capitulum Cantuarienses eundem Episcopum vocarent et procurarent. Quo facto, Prior et Capitulum Fratrem Rogerium de Throkyngg, monachum dicti loci, ad Episcopum Roffensem Johannem, apud Begehamme tunc commorantem, cum litteris Capituli Cantuariensis destinarunt, ad quorum rogatum, dicto Fratre Rogerio duce, Episcopus in maneriis Prioris et Capituli prædictorum curialiter fuit receptus, eundo et redeundo, in omnibus necessariis splendide procuratus, sumptibus dictorum Dominorum Prioris et Capituli. Acta sunt hæc anno Domini Millesimo CC°LXXIJ°.

Hoc memorandum tradidit nobis Dominus H(aymo) Episcopus Roffensis, videlicet, die Jovis proximo post festum Sanctæ Luciæ virginis, anno Dni. M°CCC°XXXIIJ°.

454.—Littera directa Magistro R. de Soleby Procuratori nostro in Curia Romana, ut ipse impetret a Pœnitentiario Domini Papæ commissionem absolvendi quosdam in casibus reservatis Curiæ prædictæ. 30 June 1332. L. 21 *b.*

Salutem in salute vera. Scrutatis archivis nostris invenimus quasdam litteras sigillatas tangentes Monasterium Sancti Augustini Cantuariæ quas desideratis, sicut intelleximus per litteras vestras, et quæ vobis deferendæ per nos traditæ sunt Domino Thomæ de Woghope, ultimo die Junii ante datam præsentium proxime præterito. Adhuc, scribitur inter Constitutiones Clementinas, sicut scitis, quod Religiosi qui clericis aut laicis sacramentum extremæ unctionis vel eucaristiæ ministrare, matrimoniave sollempnizare, non habita super hiis parochialis presbyteri licentia speciali, aut qui excommunicatos a canone, præterquam in casibus a jure expressis vel per privilegia Sedis Apostolicæ concessis eisdem, vel a sententiis per statuta provincialia aut synodali promulgatis, seu, ut verbo eorum utamur, a pœna et a culpa absolvere quemcunque præsumpserint, excommunicationis incurrant sententiam ipso facto, duntaxat per Sedem Apostolicam absolvendi; hanc constitutionem, quoad aliquam partem, quidam, videlicet, A. de B. C., de D. et Thomas de P., confratres nostri et monachi Ecclesiæ nostræ Cantuariensis, frequenter, ex quadam simplicitate et non in contemptum clavium Ecclesiæ, ut firmiter credimus, violaverunt, et, ab hujusmodi culpis non rite absoluti, se divinis immiscuerunt; quidam, videlicet, A. de B. et C. de D., fratres et monachi prædictæ Ecclesiæ, contra prædictam constitutionem, sacramentum eucharistiæ personis secularibus, ut ex verisimilibus conjecturis cognoscimus, sæpe ministrarunt; et alii Fratres, videlicet, A. de B. et C. de D., fratres et monachi Ecclesiæ prædictæ, administratores

The Proctor of the Convent in the Curia is asked to obtain for the Prior the power of absolving his monks in certain cases hitherto reserved to the Curia itself.

supradictos a suis excessibus, contractis ratione talium administrationum, absolverunt, non tamen habentes potestatem hujusmodi actus exercendi. Quidam etiam A. de B., ex quadam simplicitate, non in contemptum clavium Ecclesiæ, quosdam homines in casibus reservatis Domino nostro Cantuariensi et Priori suo, ut timet, absolvebat, ubi tamen debuit habuisse manus ligatas. Hac ratione, quæ nostros gemitus multiplicat et continuat, vobis preces infundimus affectuosas, ex habundante rogantes amicitiam vestram pro serenacione conscientiæ nostræ, quatinus meliore modo, convenientiore, et universaliore quo potueritis, juxta modum Curiæ, cum habueritis temporis oportunitatem, placeat vobis efficaciter instare erga Dominum Gaucelinum Pœnitentiarium Domini Papæ, ut ipse dignetur committere nobis vices suas ad absolvendum omnes

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(June 1332.)

L. 21 *b*.

455.—RESPONSIO AD LITTERAM JOHANNIS DE EBORACO QUONDAM SERVIENTIS NOSTRI DE WALEWORTH, DE COMPOTO SUO REDDENDO NON ALIBI QUAM CORAM FRATRIBUS NOSTRIS APUD CANTUARIAM.

A late Seneschal of the manor of Walworth has complained that he is out of pocket through his office; he is therefore informed that Auditors will inspect his accounts, not at Walworth, but

Salutz. [Par] la lettre qe vous nous mandastes nadgaires a Canterbire nous avoms entendu, qe tant amounte qe vous clamez estre grandment endette et grevez par my ceo qe vous fuistes nostre seriant a Waleworth, de quele dette et grevaunce for(te)ment nous peyse, si vostre suggestion soit verroye. Estre ceo, de ceo qe vous prietz qe vous nous duissoms assignier auditours de voz acountes oyer a Southwerk ou a Waleworth, sachez qe ceo ne pooms faire sanz blemissement de nostre estat, par ceo qe de aunciene temps ad este use qe noz seriantz, par toutz noz manoirs en Engleterre, vienent a Canterbire a nostre Eschekier pur lour acounte rendre, et ceo devant

et singulos Fratres de quibus superius est mentio, ac etiam ad dispensandum cum eis super irregularitate contracta propter causas prædictas. Propter expensas faciendas quas exigit supplicatio nostra, fiet secundum quod vos, per vestræ discretionis judicium, nos voluerritis informare. Valete in Christo super hiis et aliis statum Ecclesiæ nostræ et vestrum contingentibus nobis voluntatem vestram rescribentes per præsentium portitorem. Dicunt nobis quod a magno tempore retroacto inhibitum fuit in Curia, sub poena excommunicationis, quod nemo celebret festum Translationis Beati Benedicti; super quo nobis judicium dictæ Curiæ per prædictum portitorem transmittere velitis. Dat. Cantuar. ultimo die Junii, anno Domini Millesimo CCC^mo^XXXIJ^do^.

455.

Greeting. From the letter which you lately sent to us at Canterbury we gather what amounts to this: that you complain that you are deeply indebted and troubled in consequence of having been our Serjeant at Walworth, for which debt and trouble we are much concerned, if it be that your statement is true. Be that as it may, understand that what you ask, namely that we should appoint auditors to examine your accounts at Southwark or Walworth, we cannot do without great disparagement of our position, because from old time it has always been the custom that our Serjeants from all parts of England should come to Canterbury to our chequer, there to hand in their accounts, and this in the presence of certain of

according to ancient custom at Canterbury.

certeines persones de noz Fraires; devant queles persones nulle rien soiez abay, par ceo qe nous vous froms tote manere ley, et grace qe plus est, issi qe vous (vous) tendrez bien paiez. A Dieu, etc.

(July 1332.)

L. 22 *b*.

456.—Littera supplicatoria missa J. Poltone Majori Londoniæ pro Thoma Chikwelle.

The Mayor of London is asked to release Thomas of Chigwell, who is in custody for some offence (not improbably for smuggling at the suggestion of the Prior.)

A son treschier et bien amez en Dieu J. Poltone Maire de Loundres, Richard, etc. salutz, etc. Purceo qe nous avoms entendu qe un Thomas de Chikwell, nostre bien amez et cosyn, est en vostre garde pur ascun maniere trespas fest, qe moult nous pese, vous prioms, pur lamour de nous, qe le esement et la soeffraunce, qe faire luy poetz bonement sanz le ley offendre, graciousement faire luy voillez, issint qil sente qe nostre priere leu luy tiene. A Dieu, etc. Don. etc.

(July 1332).

L. 22 *b*.

457.—Littera credentiæ directa Abbati Sancti Augustini Cantuariæ.

A messenger on business is accredited by the Prior of Christ Church to

Reverendo in Christo Patri Domino (Radulpho) Dei gratia Abbati Sancti Augustini Cantuariæ Ricardus permissione ejusdem Prior, etc. salutem, etc. Sunt quædam negotia vos et nos pariter contingentia quæ per vestræ benignæ Paternitatis diligentia feliciter poterunt expediri, pro quibus mittimus ad vos hac vice dilectum

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(June 1332).

L. 21 *a*.

458.—Littera regrationis missa J. de Isebergh pro servitio nobis exhibito tempore quo fuit Ballivus noster in Custodia de Walda.

The Bailiff of the estates in

A son bon amy Johan de Isebergh Richard, etc. salutz et la joye pardurable. Nous vous mercioms

our brethren; and in the presence of these you need not be abashed, for we will fulfil all points of law, and, what is more of favour, so that you shall hold yourself well content.

456.

To his well very dear-beloved in God J. de Poltone Mayor of London, Richard &c., greeting &c. Whereas we have heard that one Thomas de Chikwell, our well beloved and our kinsman, is in your custody for some kind of offence comitted by him, whereat we are much concerned, we pray you that you will be graciously pleased to afford him all the ease and indulgence that you possibly can without offence to the law, so that he may find that our petition avails him.

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confratrem nostrum W. de Coventre, latorem præsentium, cui, si placet, hiis quæ vobis, ex parte nostra, dixerit viva voce fidem indubiam adhibere velitis; scientes quod dictorum negotiorum expeditio sanctæ caritatis unionem, ut firmiter credimus, multipliciter augmentabit. Valete in Christo. Beneplacitum vestrum, super hiis quæ prædictus Frater ex parte nostra vobis exponet, quamcitius commode potueritis nobis si libeat rescribentes. Dat. etc. the Abbot of St. Augustine's.

458.

To his good friend John de Isebergh, Richard, &c. greeting and everlasting joy. We thank you much and

the Weald, having more business of his own than he can attend to, is superseded, and a new one appointed.

moult, et savoms grant gree, del long temps qe vous nous avetz servi bien et lealment, pur le quel service nous et nostre Esglise serroms le plus tenuz a vous et a le(s) voz pur toutz jours. Et pur ceo qe nous entendoms qe le office de nostre[1] baillie le quel vous avetz desouz nous est moult travaillous et charjous, et vous ne poetz mye si bien travailler come vous solietz faire, et ceo nous peise, et vous avetz grandment affair entour voz busoignes demeigne, et les busoignes qi touchent voz amys en divers leuz, pur quey vous poez le meyns vostre diligence mettre a cel office faire; nous avoms ordine en la dite baillie Thomas Poukel de Canterbirs, destre laa tant com nous plerra, a qi sil vous plest voilletz estre aidant et conseillant endroit des busoignes qe nous touchent et toucheront en celes parties. Et vous prioms qe vous voillez estre amy a nous et a nostre Esglise, sicome vous estes et avez este avant ces houres, et, al aide de Dieu, nous froms issi devers vous si qe vous tendrez bien apaie. A Dieu, chier amy, et le Seint Esprit soit garde de vous. Et si rien voillez vers nous qe nous puissoms faire, fyablement nous maundez assavoir. Donez a Canterbirs, etc.

(June 1332.)

20 *b*.

459.--LITTERA DIRECTA DOMINO RICARDO DE RATHEWELL COLLECTORI REDDITUUM NOSTRORUM IN LONDONIIS PRO PECUNIA HABENDA

The rent-collector in London is asked to send down to Canter-

Salutem. Quia habemus in instanti tempore diversa et ardua negotia expedienda, et præcipue pro decima Domini Papæ in festo Sancti Johannis Baptistæ proxime futuro solvenda, vos rogamus, quatinus pe-

[1] *vostre*, MS.

are very grateful, for the long time that you have served us well and truly, for which service we and our Church shall be the more bound to you and yours for ever. And because we understand that the office of Bailiff, which you hold under us, is very troublesome and onerous, and that you are by no means so well able to work as you used to be (and we grieve for it), and that you are fully employed about affairs of your own, and those which concern your friends in sundry places, whereby you are the less able to give your diligence to the performance of the duties of this office; we have appointed in the said office of Bailiff Thomas Poukel, of Canterbury, to occupy it at our pleasure; and be pleased to assist and advise him about the affairs which concern or may concern us in your parts. And we pray you to be good friend to us and to our Church, as you now are, and always have been, and then, by the help of God, we will so act towards you that you shall feel yourself well content. God be with you, dear friend, and may the Holy Spirit be your guard. And if there be anything that you wish from us that we can do, confidently send to let us know. Given, &c.

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cuniam de redditibus nostris in Londoniis, si quam habeatis in promptu, nobis mittere velitis, per tallias, confidenter, per præsentium portitorem. Valete in Christo et Virgine gloriosa. Dat. Cantuar. etc.

bury all the ready money he has in hand.

8 July 1332.

L. 22 *b*.

460.—Littera patens et generalis directa omnibus et singulis concivibus de Beauveys in partibus transmarinis, pro Johanne de Cornubia, nuntio Domini Simonis Archiepiscopi, litteras ecclesiæ nostræ et ejusdem Domini Simonis Archiepiscopi ad Curiam Romanam deferenti, et in dicta villa gravem infirmitatem, ut nobis dictum fuerat, sustinenti.

A messenger of Archbishop Meohpam on his way to the Curia with important papers in his possession has fallen sick at Beauvais on his road, and

Universis Sanctæ Matris Ecclesiæ filiis ad quos præsentes litteræ pervenerint, Ricardus permissione divina Prior, etc. salutem in Domino sempiternam. Vestra noverit universitas nos Johannem de Cornewaille, nuntium Domini Archiepiscopi Cantuariensis et nostrum, ad negotia Ecclesiæ nostræ in Curia Romana expedienda, cum quibusdam instrumentis ipsam Ecclesiam contingentibus, nuper transmisisse, qui, ex relatu fidedignorum ut intelleximus, apud Beauveys, in itinere versus Curiam Romanam constitutus, gravi est infirmitate detentus, adeo quod

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(July 1332.)

L. 22 *a*.

461.—Littera directa Jacobo Frysel ut ipse amoveat ad tempus Bedellum de Rysebergh pro sua transgressione.

The Warden of the manors of Christ Church, hearing that there were hawks in Halton and Risborough woods, gave directions for some to be

Salutz com a luy meismes. Pur ceo qe Dantz Richard de Ickham nostre chapelleyn, qi feust ascun temps Gardeyn de noz maniers en voz parties, aveit entendu qe ylyaveit eyres de esperviers en noz boys de Haltone et de Rysebergh, nostre dit chapelleyn manda nadgaires, par un de noz en qi il fya, en nostre noun, primes a Haltone, et la feut il, sicom il dit, resceu et respondu bien et bel, et la receut il del Serjant ij. esperviers et ij. muskez; puis vynt il a Rysebergh, et la fust il, sicom nous avoms entendu,

vehementer desperabatur de vita ejusdem. Quocirca, vestram universitatem de Beauveys et quemlibet vestrum, et præcipue eum in cujus hospitio receptus fuerit, humiliter requirimus et rogamus, quatinus, si idem nuntius apud vos mortuus fuerit, dicta instrumenta, unacum litteris et aliis quæ penes se habuit Domino Thomæ de Woghope, ipsius Domini Archiepiscopi familiari, latori præsentium, quem ad recipiendum omnia et singula præmissa et ad faciendum acquietanciam de receptis specialiter deputamus, sine moræ dispendio integraliter placeat liberari; scituri quod ob defectum dictorum instrumentorum ipsa negotia faciliter poterunt deperire. Nos igitur iterata vice rogamus vos ex affectu, quatinus nostris precibus annuere velitis, pro quarum felici expeditione, mediantibus meritis Beati Thomæ gloriosi Martyris, inter benefactores Ecclesiæ nostræ supradictæ specialiter, per nos et confratres nostros, poteritis computari. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum nostrum præsentibus est appensum. Dat. Cantuar. viij° die Julii, anno Dni. M°CCCXXXIJ^do.

perhaps has died. In the latter case the citizens of Beauvais are asked to give the papers found on his body to the messenger carrying the present letter.

461.

Salvation as for himself. Whereas Dom. Richard of Ickham, our Chaplain, who was once Warden of our manors in your parts, had heard that there were hawks' nests in our woods at Halton and Risborough, our said Chaplain sent in our name by one of our people whom he trusted, first of all to Halton, and there he was, he says, fairly and honestly welcomed, and he there received from the Serjeant two sparrow-hawks and two musketts; then he came to Risborough, and there, as we hear, he was bluntly told by John Nodel, who is now Bedel

caught for him. At Halton he was obeyed, but at Risborough, which is close to Halton, the Bedel answered rudely. Therefore it is ordered that the Bedel be deposed.

respondu de Johan Nodel, qest ore Bedel, trenchantment, qe si il voleyt avier esperviers il les deust quere meismes, et autres paroles vyleynes auxi luy dist, qe ne sont mye toutz ore a rehercier, et ceo en despit de nous et de nostre chapelleyn avantdit. Pur quey nous voloms qe vous remuez, ou facez remuer, le dit Johan de cel bedelrie, et qe vous facez par ascun altre leal de qi vous fiez le dit office gardier, desques atant qe vous aiez Gardeyn, ou altre maundement de nous. A Dieu, etc.

8 July (1332).

L. 22 *a*.

462.—LITTERA DIRECTA SERVIENTI NOSTRO DE RYSEBERGH DE GRATIA FACIENDA TENENTIBUS NOSTRIS EJUSDEM LOCI QUOUSQUE NOS AD ILLAS PARTES DECLINAVERIMUS.

The Bailiff of Risborough is required, by the Warden of Manors, to show forbearance to certain tenants at Monks Risborough for reasons stated in the letter.

Salutz. Pur ceo qe nous avoms entendu qe Johan Syred, nostre tenant de Rysebergh, est destreint grevousement, par toutz ses aviers et ensement par toute sa croupe de sa terre, seysi en nostre mayn par commaundement nostre bailliff, pur un fyn de v. marcz qil dust avier fait a nous pur la terre sa femme, a ceo qom dit, la ou il nul fyn ne fist; et les plegges de tele fyn Johan de la Fountayne, Willeam atte Halle, et Richard le Hopper, les queux plegges sont destreint pur meisme le fyn, qi dient qe unqes ne furent plegges, ne conisseyent unqes le pleggage devant nully de le fyn avantdite, mais devant nous granterent en Southwerk, qe eux prendreyent-a-mayn qe meisme celuy Johan Syred gardereit, semereit, et salvereit toute les issues de la dite terre jesques a nostre venue en cel pays. Et pur ceo qe nous ne voloms nient estre contrariant a nostre grant avantgrante, vous maundoms et commaundoms qe toute lour destresses pur cele chose prises, et la croupe, par suffisaunte plevine de eux meismes ou de altres de noz tenantz, jesques a nostre venue en cel pays, a

there, that if he wanted hawks he had better catch them himself, and other rude things, all of which need not be recalled here, he said to him; and this he did in disrespect to us and to our said Chaplain. Wherefore we desire that you remove, or cause to be removed, the said John from his office of Bedel, and that you cause the said office to be held by some other worthy man in whom you may put trust, until you have the Warden in your parts, or fresh orders from us. Adieu, &c.

462.

Greeting. Whereas we have heard that John Syred, our tenant at Risborough, has been sorely distrained upon, to the extent of all his draught-cattle and all his crops on the ground seized into our hand by direction of our Bailiff, for a fine of five marks which he ought to have made to us for his wife's land, whereas, as they say, he made no fine; and the sureties for this fine, John of the Fountain, William atte Halle, and Richard the Hopper (which sureties are distrained for the same fine) say that they never were sureties at all, nor were aware of any surety being given before anyone for the said fine; but they have consented, before us in Southwark, to undertake that the said John Syred shall hold the land, sow it, and harvest all the produce of the said land until our arrival in the district. And because we are no ways inclined to recall our grant once granted, we send to you to command you that you cause to be released all the distresses levied for this cause, together with the crops, upon sufficient assurance, to be given by the parties themselves or by others of our tenants, (so that they may answer to whatever may be demanded of

respoundre a nous en reson de ceo qom lour demaundera sanz le ley, facez deliverer; et autres choses qi touchent noz altres tenantz, par suffisant maynprise, en trespas ou en altre chose, mettez en respit jesques a nostre venue, issint qe nous puissoms faire droit adunqes as toutz noz tenantz qe pleindre se vouleyent; ou qe nostre bailliff ou vous eient autre mandement de nous. A Dieu. Donez a Canterbire le viij. jour de Juyl desouz nostre prive seal.

15 Aug. (1332).

L. 23 *a*.'

463.—Littera directa Jacobo de Echynghamme pro bosco nostro de la Knolle in Drovedenne.

James de Etchingham is told that by the *custom of Kent* the timber in Knole Wood belongs to the Convent, who have also a right of way for carrying it. He is therefore asked not to obstruct their servants.

Salutz. Sachez qe nous avoms parle a nostre conseil, qi nous dient qe, par les usages de Kent de drovedenn, le boys de cheyne et de fou deit estre le nostre, a copier, et a carier, et de ceo faire noz volentez, et a entrier en noz drovedenn pur les cariages faire laa ou nous solioms entrier. Pur quey nous vous prioms pur lamour de nous, qe nous puissoms nostre droit avier et entrier pur nostre boys carier a Knolle, qest de meisme la condicion, et noz volentes de ceo faire sanz estre desturbe par vous ou par les voz, issint qe nous ne aioms mestier sur ceo quere remedie, kar nous hareyoms moult davier malevollaunce de vous, si nous puissoms altrement faire sanz desheritaunce de nous et de nostre Esglise. Vostre voillaunce nous voillez remaundier par le portour de cestes. A Dieu, etc. Don. a Canterbire le jour del Assumpcion Nostre Dame.

(Aug. 1332.)

L. 23 *a*.

464.—Littera regrationis directa H. de Wygnod de Sandwyco.

A burgess of Sandwich is

A son bien amez H. Wygnod, Burgeys de Sandwyz, Richard, etc. salutz, etc. Chier amy, moult vous

them without appeal to law), until our arrival in the district; and in other matters of trespass or suchlike which concern our other tenants, take sufficient security, and leave them in suspense until our arrival, so that then we may be able to do justice to all such of our tenants as have anything to complain of; unless in the meantime our Bailiff or you have farther orders from us.

463.

Greeting. Know that we have spoken with our counsel, who tell us that by the custom of Kent respecting *drovedennes* the oak timber and the firewood ought to belong to us, to cut and to carry at our pleasure; and that we have the right of entering our drovedennes for the purpose of drawing off (the timber) at the times at which we have been accustomed. Wherefore we pray on you, for love of us, that we may be able to enjoy our rights, and to enter and carry our timber at Knole, which is of this same tenure (of *drovedenne*), and to do our pleasure therein, without interruption from you or yours; so that we may have no occasion to seek for redress in this matter; for we much hesitate to have any variance with you, if we can do otherwise without disherison of ourselves and our Church. Please to send word of your intentions by the bearer. Adieu, &c.

464.

To his well-beloved H. Wygnod, Burgess of Sandwich, Richard &c. greeting &c. Dear friend, we thank you

thanked for advancing money to pay a foreign merchant who has sold wine to the Convent.

mercioms des grants aides et bountes qe sovent avetz fait a nous et a les noz, et nomeement del aprest et eesement qe vous avez fait a Danz Estevene nostre Tresorier, de une dette qe nous devoms pur noz vins a un estrange marchant. Et sachez, chier amy, qe au jour qe nostre dit Tresorier vous ad assigne la paie vous serrez servi sanz altre delay. Et pur ceo qe nostre dit Tresorier promist a vous de vous maundier ix. livres et xv. soudes, a parfournier la paye outre ceo qe vous luy avez apreste, nous vous maundoms le dit argent, par le portour de cestes, et prioms qil vous plese prendre nostre obligacion del dit marchant, et tenir le vers vous desques atant qe nous avoms fait vostre assez[1] de la dite pecuine. A Dieu, etc.

(Aug. 1332.)

465.—Littera credenciæ missa W. de Northo Escaetori Domini Regis.

L. 23 *a*.

The Prior regrets that he did not see the King's Escheator when the latter was at Canterbury, and he recommends an agent whom he sends to confer with him.

Salutz. Sachez, chier amy, qe moult nous poise qe nous ne ussoms parle et eu la acqueyntaunce de vous ore a vostre venue a Canterbire, et voillez savier qe ce ne sont mye noz coupes qe nous ne ussoms a vostre venue entreparlez de diverses busoignes qe nous touchent. Et pur ceo vous prioms, qe vous voillez a ceste foith crere ceo qe R. de B., nostre chier vadlet, portour de cestes, vous dirra de bouch de par nous, et vostre volente par meisme le portour remaundier; ou quant vous retournerez de visitier Seint Thomas, nous voillez dire de cuer, sicom amy, ceo qe fest meuz affaire en noz dites busoignes, et nous froms issi entre nous qe bien serra, al aide de Dieu. A Dieu, etc.

[1] assez = ad satis.

much for the great help and the generosity which you have often shown to us and ours, and especially for the loan and accommodation which you have afforded to Dom. Stephen our Treasurer, in discharge of a debt which we owe for our wines to a foreign merchant; and be assured, dear friend, that on the day which our Treasurer has fixed the payment shall be made to you without any farther delay. And inasmuch as that our Treasurer promised to send you nine pounds and fifteen shillings to complete the payment, beyond the sum which you lent him, we send you this money by the bearer, and beg you to take up our bill given to the said merchant, and to retain it as security until we have given you satisfaction for the said money.

465.

Greeting. Know, dear friend, that it grieves us much that we did not speak to you or make your acquaintance just now at your coming to Canterbury, and please to believe that it was not in any way our fault that we did not at your coming discuss several matters which concern us. And therefore we pray you, that you will now give credence to that which R. de B., our dear servant, bearer of these, will tell you by word of mouth on our behalf, and that you will in reply send word of your wishes by the same bearer; or when you return in pilgrimage to St. Thomas, please to tell us from your heart, as our friend, what is the best for us to do in our said affairs, and between ourselves we will so act that all shall be well, with God's help. Adieu, &c.

12 Sept. (1332). L. 23 *b*.

466.—LITTERA MISSA JACOBO FRYSEL PRO INGRATITUDINE TENETIUM NOSTRORUM DE RYSEBERGH ET HALTONE.

The tenants at Risborough have combined to deceive the Convent in the matter of a tax, and the Warden of Manors therefore asks the Seneschal to meet him at Risborough on a certain day.

Salutz et la joye pardurable. Sachez qe nous vous savoms molt grant gree del garnissement de les fraudes et falsyves qe noz vilains de Ryssebergh et Haltone nous ont fest, endroit, del tax de les auncïene demeignes nostre Seignur le Roy. Et voillez savier qe par nous desore ne averont tieu grace come ils ont eu avant ces houres, mais molt nous poise, qe unques maundames a vous, ou a altres, pur grace faire a eaux. Et pur ceo vous prioms qe vous soiez amy a nous et a nostre Esglise, sicom avant avez este, et nomeement ore en le tax avantdit, eant regard al enqueste de bone gents qest, par vostre aide, passe pur nous. Et qe vous voillez les ditz villains reddement chastier pur chescun maniere trespas, solom la ley, sanz nulle maniere grace faire a eaux. Et par ceo qe vous emmervoillez qe nous ne vous certifiames mye del paiement de une dette qe nous vous devoms, sachez qe ceo fuit la plus grant cause pur quei nous preimes le chemyn vers le val, de vous certifier de bouche; et pur ceo nous vous prioms, qe, si y puit estre fest, qe vous voillez hastier qe nous vous puissoms parlier tantcom nous sumes en cele parties; kar nous avoms les choses avantdites molt a cuer. Et vous nous troverez a Rysebergh ou a Haltone Mardy ou Mekesdy proschein suiantz. Et si vous ne poez mye tant hastier, nous certifiez, par le portour de cestes, ou nous vous puissoms trover en cheminant vers lostel. A Dieu. Donez a Newenton le xij. jour de Septembre.

466.

Greeting and everlasting joy. Know that we are most grateful for your warning about the frauds and deceptions that our bondmen of Risborough and Halton have put upon us, in connexion with the taxation of the ancient demesne of the Crown. And please to understand that henceforth they shall not have at our hands such favour as they have hitherto enjoyed, and it much troubles us that ever we should have asked you or anybody to show favour to them. And therefore we pray you that you will show yourself a friend to us and to our Church, as you have been aforetime, and especially now in the matter of the aforesaid tax in the case of the inquest of honest men, which has, by your help, pronounced in our favour. And (we desire) that you be pleased to punish the said bondmen sharply for every kind of trespass, with all the rigour of the law, without showing them any manner of favour. And since you are astonished that we do not mention to you anything about the payment of the debt which we owe you, be assured that this was the chief cause for which we made our way towards the Vale (of Aylesbury), in order to inform you by word of mouth; and therefore we pray you that you will make haste so that we may have a talk as soon as we come to those parts, for we have the affairs above mentioned much at heart. And you will find us at Risborough or at Halton on Tuesday or Wednesday next coming. And if you cannot hasten so much, certify us by the bearer of these where we can meet you as we travel towards our journey's end. Adieu, &c.

12 Sept. (1332).

L. 23 *b*.

467.—Littera missa Domino J. de Ifelde de tallagio Domini Regis super dominico suo Antiquo, etc.

The King's Justices having been charged to assess the talliage upon the King's *ancient demesne* which has passed into other hands, the Prior warns his Seneschal to be on the alert lest any of the land of the Convent should be claimed as *ancient demesne* and taxed accordingly.

Salutz, etc. Nous avoms entendu qe nostre Seignur le Roy ad assigne ses Justices en toutz les countes Dengelterre de asser taillage, en toutz ses demeignes en Engelterre, et les aunciene demeignes en altri tenaunce qe solient estre taillez; et de ceo prenez bon avisement de voz et noz amys, en aventure si hom rien voudra chalengier en nostre tenaunce qe fuit aunciene demeigne, com y nest mye, a ceo qe nous entendoms, ne nient taillable, pur ceo qe nous le tenoms en pure et perpetuele almoigne, de Rois et par conferment de Rois, et les avioms longement en nostre seissine et possession avant le Conqueste, issint qe en tieu tempps, dient les sages, qe le Roy ne puit rien demaundier de tieu manere taillage, forsqe tantsoullement de ses demeignes qe furent en la seissine ses auncestres en son sank; et pur ceo vous prioms qe vous soiez de tiel avisement en ceste busoigne, qe noz tenantz ne seont endamagez par defalte de bon avisement. A Dieu. Donez a Newenton le xij^e^ jour de Septembre.

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21 Sept. (1332).

L. 23 *b*.

468.—Littera directa Domino R. Suppriori pro honore per ipsum in nostra absentia exhibito Domino Regi et Reginæ ac aliis magnatibus terræ.

In the Prior's absence the King and Queen have visited the shrine of St. Thomas,

In Christo salutem. Die Sabbati proximo ante datam præsentium recepimus litteras vestras, quibus perlectis, consideravimus vestram multiplicem sollicitudinem, qua mediante, onera nostra gratiose supportastis in exhibendo honorem debitum Domino Regi nostro, ac Reginæ, et aliis magnatibus, tarde et modo subi-

467.

Greeting, &c. We have heard that our Lord the King has appointed his Justices in every county of England to assess the talliage on all his demesnes in England, and on the ancient demesne which is now in other hands, and which used to be talliaged; and of this matter take careful counsel of your and our friends, lest perchance it should be proposed to challenge anything in our possession as being ancient demesne, for there is none such as we are given to understand, nor anything liable to talliage; seeing that we hold everything in pure and perpetual alms as granted by Kings, and by the confirmation of kings, and that we had it in our seizin and possession before the Conquest, that is to say, in times so far distant that the King cannot demand anything for this kind of talliage, but only for his demesnes which were in the seizin of his ancestors of his own blood; and therefore we pray you that you will be so wary in this matter, that our tenants may not suffer for want of foresight. Given, &c.

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taneo, secundum quod nobis scripsistis, visitantibus reliquias Beati Thomæ, nostri patroni gloriosi; quos peregrinos multum approbamus, et præcipue Dominum Regem nostrum, qui, nos sibi non mediocriter obligans, et Ecclesiam nostram honorificans, sic peregre profectus est, quod, post suæ peregrinationis devotionem completam, ad cameram nostram voluit declinare, ibidem sumptibus nostris accipiens corporis refectionem, pro quo possumus signanter, ut credimus, dicere illud psalmi: "A Domino factum est illud, et est mirabile in oculis nostris." Adhuc nova habemus

where they have been hospitably received by the Sub-Prior. For the tact shown on the occasion the Prior commends the Sub-prior.

de ultimo concilio in ecclesia Sancti Pauli Londoniarum celebrato, quæ, juxta nostri intellectus capacitatem, inseri fecimus inter nostra memoranda, vobis per nos, ut intendimus, demonstranda. Valete in ipso in cujus manu corda sunt regum, et cui pro salute confratris nostri Adæ de Selviston, graviter ut intelleximus infirmati, preces infundimus cumulatas. Data apud Orpyngton, die Sancti Mathei Apostoli.

29 Sept. 1332.

L. 24 *a*.

469.—Obligatio de x. libris debitis Domino Ricardo de Ayremynne.

The Chapter give a promissory note, in payment of his salary, to one of their clerks. The note was afterwards cancelled.

Pateat universis, etc. quod nos Ricardus permissione, etc. tenemur et obligati sumus Domino Ricardo de Ayremynne, clerico nostro, in x. libris sterlingorum, quam quidem pecuniam promittimus, ut tenemur, eidem Domino Ricardo reddere et solvere in festo Pentecostes proxime futuro sine ulteriori dilatione. Ad quam quidem solutionem fideliter faciendam, obligamus nos et omnia bona nostra mobilia et immobilia. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum nostrum præsentibus

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(Sept. 1332.)

L. 24 *a*.

471.—Littera missa Ballivo nostro Surreiæ, de fidelitate facta per Dominam de Passele, pro filio suo infra ætatem existente, de quodam tenemento in feodo nostro de Merstham.

An heir under age has inherited an estate in the fee of the Convent, and his mother has, in his name, done fealty to the Prior; but there are other

Salutz. Pur ceo que nous avoms entendu que suites, services, et fealte nont mye este fetz, a nous ne a nostre Covent, dun tenement qe fuit a Monsire Eadmond de Passele en nostre fee de Merstham en Surrei; sachez qe la dame nous ad approche, et pur son fitz, nous ad fest fealte pur le temps qil demoerra deinz age. Et par ceo qe nous ne sumes mye

est appensum. Dat. Cantuariæ, die Sancti Michaelis Arcangeli, anno Dni M°CCCXXX^mo IJ^do. (Vacat.)

470.—Littera missa Johanni fitz Beneyt de Hecham novo Ballivo Essexiæ pro palfredo Domini Prioris. 5 Oct. 1332. L. 24 *a*.

Salutem. Quia invenimus in registris nostris quod quilibet Prior Cantuariensis Ecclesiæ post mortem prædecessoris sui habuit de quolibet manerio totius prioratus, de consuetudine approbata, auxilium ad unum palfredum in novitate sua; vobis pro jure Ecclesiæ nostræ salvando scribimus, mandantes quatinus in proximis Curiis nostris tenendis in ballivia vestra, ad dictum palfredum levandum homines et tenentes nostros, utm elius vobis videbitur expedire, coherceatis; exceptis tenentibus nostris de Lallyngg, Hoo, et Denegris, qui pro auxilio ad dictum palfredum nostrum, mediante diligentia Edwardi Gange quondam Ballivi nostri, nos, spontanea voluntate, respexerunt. Valete in Christo et valeant qui vos valere desiderant et videre. Data Cantuariæ, v^to die Octobris, sub sigillo nostro privato.

The Bailiff of the Convent Manors in Essex is told to exact from the tenants their contribution towards the Prior's palfrey.

471.

Greeting. Whereas we had heard that suit, service, and fealty had not been done to us or our Convent for a tenement which belonged to Sir Edmund de Passele in our fee at Merstham in Surrey; know, that the Lady has come to us, and in her son's name has done fealty for the time during which he will be under age. And because we have not been told about any *relief* nor *suit*

services due from him, from time to time, and the Bailiff is charged to see that these are not omitted.

enforme de relef ne de suite de court, vous chargoms, qe si ele ne fest mye ceo qe faire doit par son temps pur son dit fitz, vous nous certifiez sanz delay, et qe vous facez deliverer la destresse si null soit prise, desqes atant qe vous avez altre maundement de nous. A Dieu, etc.

(Sept. 1332.)

L. 24 *a*.

472.—Alia littera Ballivo nostro de Walda directa de fidelitate facta per eandem dominam pro quibusdam tenementis quæ dicta domina tenet de nobis in Apoldre.

A similar set of instructions relating to another manor.

Salutz. Pur ceo qe nous avoms entendu qe suytes, services, et fealte, ne ont mye este faitz a nous et a nostre Covent de tenements qe la Dame de Passele tient de nous, a nostre manier de Apoldre; sachez qe la dame nous ad approche, et fest a nous fealte pur les tenements qele cleyne tenier de nous. Et par ceo qe nous ne sumes mye enforme del releff, ne de suyte de court, vous chargoms qe si ele ne fest mye ceoqe faire doit qe vous nous certifiez, *et cetera ut supra.*

(Sept. 1332.)

L. 24 *a*.

473.—Littera missa J. Frisel pro fine faciendo per Johannem Syred de terra quam tenet.

The Seneschal of Risborough is asked to advise in a case where a free man has, without licence, married a bondwoman of the Convent.

Salutz, etc. Pur ceo qe nostre seriant de Risshebergh se charga sur son acounte de v. marcz, de une fyn qe Johan Syred, qest frank homme sicom om dist, duist avier fest fyn pur la terre de sa femme, la quele il ad espose sanz conge, et nous ne pooms mye bien estre certifie de ceste busoigne sanz vostre conseil, vous maundoms qe, auxi tost come vous bonement purrez, nous certifiez le quel y vaut plus de prendre, les ditz v. marcz ou la terre en nostre mayn; kar tout est mys en respit desques atant qe nous eoms vostre conseil endroit de ceste busoigne. A Dieu, etc.

of Court, we charge you, that if she have not done all that she ought in her son's name for his time, then inform us without delay, and (we require) you to withdraw the distraint if any has been levied, until you have other order from us. Adieu, &c.

472.

Greeting. Whereas we had heard that suit, service, and fealty had not been done to us and our Convent for tenements which the Lady Passele holds from us in our manor of Appledore; know, that the Lady has come to us and has done fealty for the tenements which she claims to hold of us. And because we have no information about *relief* nor *suit of Court*, we charge you that you inform us, &c., *ut supra*.

473.

Greeting. Whereas our Serjeant at Risborough charged himself in his account with five marks, for a fine which John Syred, who is a freeman, as it is said, had to pay on admission to his wife's land, whom he married without licence, and as we cannot be fully informed in this matter without your opinion, we request that, as speedily as you can, you instruct us which it is best worth while to take—the said five marks, or the land into our hand; for all is left in suspense until we have your opinion about this matter. Adieu, &c.

(Oct. 1332.)

L. 24 *a*.

474.—Littera missa Majori Dovoriæ pro restitutione Johannis Notynghamme ad ecclesiam de Bocklond.

The Prior of Christ Church, as principal executor named in papal bulls relating to the expulsion of the rector of Buckland, requires the Mayor of Dover to see the rector reinstated. The subexecutors have been prevented from performing their duty by threats of violence made to them by some Dover burgesses.

Richard par la soeffraunce de Dieu Priour, etc. a son treschier et bien amez en Dieu Johan Josep Maire de Douvre, salutz, etc. Pur ceo qe nostre Seint Piere en Dieu Jon la Apostoill qore est, nous ad especialement maunde, par ses bulles, come al principal executour pur les busoignes Sire Jon de Notynghamme persone del esglise de Bocklonde, de lui faire restitucion de sa dite esglise, ensemblement ove toutz les profitz qe sont venuz a la dite esglise, del temps qe la dit Sire Jon ad este aforce forsbarre de son droit, com pleinerement piert par ses bulles et par son proces de la dite Court de Rome; nous avoms entendu qe noz substitutz et les subexecutours la dite persone nosent approchier Douvre, ne a sa dite esglise venier affaire execucion de bulles le dit Pape, pur doute de manaces qe ascun gent de la ville de Douvre unt fait par procurement de ses adversaires, agrant peril de eaux et de toutz yceux qi sont desobeysantz et desturbantz les maundementz le dit Pape; vous prioms, si chierement come nous pooms, qe vous voillez estre aidant, et suffrier qe ley et resoun soit fait au dit Sire Jon, et desturbier le malice de ceux qe folement se medlent a desturbier lestat de Seint Esglise endroit de ceste cause, issint qe la dite persone puisse salvement venier ovesqe ses subexecutours et demonstrier ses bulles, et ses choses qil ad pur luy del dit Appostoill a pronuncier et declarier en Engleys, come apent, et prendre sa restitucion de sa dite esglise, et parfourmier la volunte nostre Seignur le dit Pape, a cui nous sumes toutz tenuz obeyer et humilier devoutement. Ceo qest fait en droit de ceste busoigne nous voillez, quant temps vendra, certifier par ascun entrevenant. A Dieu, etc.

474.

Richard by God's permission Prior &c. to his very dear and well-beloved in God John Joseph Mayor of Dover, greeting &c. Whereas our Holy Father in God John, the Pope who now is, has especially commanded us by his bulls, as principal executor of the cause of Sir John de Nottingham Parson of the Church of Buckland, to make restitution to him of the said church, together with all its profits accruing since the time that the said Sir John has been forcibly kept out of his right, as clearly appears by his bulls and by his process in the said Court of Rome; we have understood that our deputies and sub-executors of the (cause of the) said Parson do not dare to approach Dover, nor to go to his said church for the purpose of executing the bulls of the said Pope, from fear of the threats which certain men of Dover have uttered at the instigation of his adversaries, to the no small peril of those who disobey and oppose the commandments of the said Pope; we (therefore) pray you as earnestly as we can that you will please to assist, and to permit that law and right may be done to the said Sir John and that you will oppose the malice of those who foolishly interpose to disturb the repose of Holy Church in this case; so that the said parson may securely come with his sub-executors and exhibit his bulls and read and explain them in English, as is usual, together with other instruments which he has in his support from the aforesaid Pope, and that he may receive restitution of his said church and perform the will of the said Pope in proper form, whom we are all bound to obey and devoutly to yield to. Please to report to us by some passenger what is done on behalf of this matter when the time shall arrive. Farewell &c.

(Oct. 1332.)

L. 24 *b*.

475.—Alia littera supplicatoria missa W. Hurtyn pro eodem negotio.

Help in the same case is asked from W. de Hurtyn of Dover, presumably a person of influence.

Richard, etc. a son chier amy W. Hurtyn de Douvre salutz, et bon amistie. Pur eco qe nostre Seint Piere le Appostoill de Rome, qore est, nous ad maunde par ses bulles a mettre en plenier restitucion Johan de Notynghamme en sa esglise de Boclonde, et nous avoms entendu qe ascune gentz de la ville de Douvre sont procurez encontre luy adesturbier ses subexecutours, qi le duissent remettre en sa dite esglise par vertue del maundement le dit Pape, a lour grant peril; vous prioms qe vous, voillez aider le dit Jon qi est greve, sicom il dit et com piert par ses bulles et par son proces de la Court de Rome, qe reson et ley soit fait a la volunte le dit Pape parfourmer, et qil puisse avier entre en sa dite esglise, solom la forme avant dite. Vostre volunte, chier amy, etc. A Dieu, etc. Et si rien voillez, etc. Donez, etc.

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9 Oct. (1332).

L. 24 *b*.

476.—Littera missa Domino Abbati Sanctæ Radegundis pro dicto J. de Notynghamme pro eodem negotio.

The Abbot of St. Radegund's, who was sub-executor in a former stage of the process, is asked to assist in reinstating the rector of Buckland.

Religioso viro Domino . . . . Dei gratia Abbati Sanctæ Radegundis, Præmonstratensis ordinis, Ricardus permissione ejusdem Prior, etc., salutem, cum sinceræ caritatis affectu. Sanctissimus et reverentissimus pater Johannes divina providentia Papa xxij^{us} nobis, et Domino Archidiacono Norwycensi, et Magistro Johanni Loterel Sacræ Theologiæ Professori, litteras suas mandavit, ut nos, vel duo, aut unus nostrum, per nos [vel per] alium seu alios, auctoritate Apostolica, sententiam latam pro Johanne de Notynghamme, rectore ecclesiæ

475.

Richard, &c., to his dear friend W. Hurtyn of Dover, greeting, and real friendship. Whereas Our Holy Father the Pope of Rome, who now is, has directed us by his bulls to give to John de Nottingham full restitution of his church of Buckland; and as we have heard that some men of Dover have, at great risk to themselves, proposed in opposition to him to hinder his sub-executors, who have to replace him in his said church by virtue of the command of the said Pope; we beg you that you will be pleased to assist the said John (who is oppressed, as he says, and as appears by his bulls and by his process in the Court of Rome), so that right and law may be executed, and thus the will of the said Pope fulfilled; and that he may obtain entry into his said church, after the manner aforesaid. Your intentions, dear friend, &c. Farewell. And if there be anything that you wish, &c.

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de Boclonde, in Romana Curia, executioni debitæ demandaremus, et ut dictum Johannem, vel procuratorem suum, ad ecclesiam suam antedictam restitueremus, aut restitui faceremus, reintegraremus, defenderemus, et sibi de ipsius ecclesiæ fructibus, redditibus, proventibus, juribus, et obvencionibus universis, toto medio tempore perceptis, in quibus adversarius suus condempnatus est, plenarie satisfactionem faceremus impendi; contradictores et rebelles, per censuras ecclesiasticas, appellatione postposita, compesceremus, auctoritate prædicta. Dominus vero Archidiaconus Norwycensis, prænominatus Domini Papæ Capellanus, primi gradus Causarum Auditor, auctoritate Domini nostri Papæ scripsit vobis et quibusdam subexecutoribus, ut

vos infra certum tempus, et sub gravi pœna, post notificationem dictarum litterarum apostolicarum ac processus dicti Johannis de Notynghamme intimatam, præfatam executionem faceretis, si ad hujusmodi negotium expediendum per dictum J. de Notynghamme fueritis requisiti. Hæc ratio nos excitat et inducit affectuose vos rogare, quatinus vos, spirituale periculum evitantes, hujusmodi executionem efficaciter facere velitis, prout de jure arctamini et tenemini; scientes, ut intelleximus, quod viros de villa Dovoriæ coadjutores vestros in hac parte, et per consequens mandatis apostolicis obedientes, poteritis invenire. Beneplacitum vestrum super hiis et aliis vobis per bajulum præsentium, si placet, significetis. Valeat vita vestra in prosperitate felici. Dat. Cantuar. ix^no^ die Octobris.

26 Oct. (1332).

L. 25 *a*.

477. — LITTERA MISSA DOMINO ARCHIEPISCOPO PRO MUTATIONE FORMÆ SUÆ SCRIBENDI QUO AD OBEDIENTIARIOS SUOS VICE SUA PRÆFICIENDOS.

The letter of complaint sent to the Archbishop, who in appointing an official addressed his letter to the Prior and Chapter, instead of to the Prior alone.

Benigno Patri devotus filius obedientiam reverentiam et honorem. Non tædeat Dominum meum, nec irascatur si quædam subscripsero quæ insident cordi meo. Pater reverende, xxiiij^to^ die Octobris proxime præterito recepi litteras vestras, formam quæ sequitur continentes: "Symon permissione divina, etc. dilectis filiis Priori et Capitulo Ecclesiæ nostræ Christi Cantuariensis, salutem, gratiam, et benedictionem. Cum ad officium pœnitentiariæ ejusdem nostræ Ecclesiæ, vacans in instanti, vos Fratres Hugonem de Sancta Margareta Elemosinarium, Edmundum de Adesham, et W. de Couventre Sacristam, nobis nominavistis, ut nos unum ipsorum præficeremus, juxta morem solitum in officium memoratum; præfatum Edmundum, unum de tribus nominatis, ad hujusmodi officium pœnitentiariæ acceptavimus, et ipsum in Pœnitentiarium præfecimus

Ecclesiæ supradictæ; quod vobis omnibus tenore præsentium innotescat. In Christo feliciter valeatis. Scriptum apud Mortelak die xxiij° mensis Octobris." Hiis litteris vestris, proximo die post eorum receptionem, in Capitulo perlectis, turbatum erat cor meum pro clamore Fratrum, dicentium quod pro Obedientiariis vestris præficiendis, de consuetudine laudabili et antiqua, per vos soli Priori Ecclesiæ vestræ Cantuariensis esse scribendum, ut ipse Obedientiarios per vos acceptatos auctoritate vestra publice nominet in Capitulo. Hac ratione excitatus et inductus, vestræ supplico Paternitati, quatinus pro præfectione Fratris Edmundi de Adesham in Pœnitentiarium vestrum litteras vestras per bajulum præsentium michi transmittere dignemini, juxta formam præsentibus interclusam. Aliter, ut intellexi, Fratres mei prædictum Fratrem Edmundum Pœnitentiarium vestrum rite præfectum minime reputabunt, nec aliter tumultus inanis clamoris et materia turbationis, in nichilum redigetur. Placeat vobis hæc considerare et advertere, et preces meas pro quiete Sanctæ Religionis confovenda efficaciter exaudire. Non latet vero vestram discretionem, quod sine quiete mentis tota religionis devotio dissipatur. Semper valeat reverendus Pater meus in Auctore veræ pacis. Dat. Cantuar. xxvj. die Octobris sub sigillo meo privato, quia privatam voluntatem meam vobis michi nuper præcepistis secretius intimare.

478.—Littera Domini Simonis Archiepiscopi directa Capitulo super quadam consuetudine per ipsum vendicata quoad suos Obedientiarios præficiendos, quæ consuetudo totaliter latet Conventum. 28 Oct. (1332.) L. 25 *b*.

Symon permissione, etc. dilectis in Christo filiis Prior et Capitulo Ecclesiæ nostræ Christi Cantuariensis, The Archbishop

turns the tables on the Chapter and complains of a want of formality in the preceding nomination; which irregularity, for this once, he is willing to overlook.

salutem, gratiam, et benedictionem. Licet de laudabili consuetudine in eadem Ecclesia hactenus observata, ad officia singula in eadem quorum ad nos spectat provisio, nobis nominare tres de Capitulo personas ydoneas debeatis, ut una earum, per nos postmodum acceptata et in hujusmodi officio præfecta, eadem persona ad idem officium assumatur. Ad officium tamen pœnitentiariæ Ecclesiæ nostræ prædictæ, modo vacans ut asseritur, nobis tres personas nominare, juxta consuetudinem hujusmodi, non curastis; sed Prior vester duntaxat, vos in Fratres Hugonem de Sancta Margareta Elemosinarium, Edmundum de Adesham, et W. de Coventre Sacristam, nobis nominandos ad hujusmodi officium consensisse, absque alia vestri vel sui nominatione, nobis per suas litteras intimavit. Et quamvis, ex causis præmissis, nullum trium prædictorum admittere seu præficere teneremur, vobis tamen carissimis filiis volentes, quatenus sine nostri et Ecclesiæ nostræ juris offensa potuerimus, complacere et præcipue ne, ex dilatione morosa, in dicto officio contingat, quod absit, dispendium imminere, præfatum Edmundum de Adesham, unum de tribus præfatis, ad officium pœnitentiariæ hujusmodi acceptamus, et ipsum in Pœnitentiarium Ecclesiæ nostræ præficimus supradictæ; vobisque Domino Priori prædicto committimus et mandamus quatinus Fratrem Edmundum prædictum, ad officium pœnitentiariæ præfatum sic per nos acceptatum, ut præmittitur, et præfectum, auctoritate nostra, in Capitulo nostro publice nominetis. Ad Dei servitium et perfectæ religionis observantiam feliciter valeatis. Scriptum apud Mortelak die xxviij. mensis Octobris.

Ista littera supponit contrarium consuetudini, pro qua Dominus Ricardus Prior scripsit prædicto Domino Archiepiscopo, sicut patet in alia parte hujus folii.

479.—Littera Domini Simonis Archiepiscopi mittenda Domino Priori pro ejusdem Domini Archiepiscopi Obedientiariis in suum officium præficiendis vice dicti Domini, quæ littera in littera proxime præcedenti fuerat interclusa. (Oct. 1332.) L. 25 *a*.

The names of three monks having been submitted to the Archbishop, recommended by the Chapter as fit for the office of Penitentiary, the Archbishop chooses one, and reports his selection to the Chapter.

Symon permissione, etc. dilecto filio Priori Ecclesiæ nostræ Christi Cantuariensis, salutem, gratiam, et benedictionem. Cum ad officium pœnitentiariæ ejusdem Ecclesiæ nostræ, vacans in instanti, confratres vestri, super hoc habito tractatu consueto, in Fratres Hugonem de Sancta Margareta Elemosinarium, Edmundum de Adesham, et Willelmum de Coventre Sacristam, nobis nominandos ad hujusmodi officium consenserunt ac etiam nominaverunt, ut nos unum ipsorum acceptaremus et præficeremus in officium memoratum; præfatum; Fratrem Edmundum, unum de tribus nominatis ad hujusmodi officium pœnitentiariæ, acceptavimus, et ipsum in Pœnitentiarium præfecimus Ecclesiæ nostræ supradictæ, quem fratrem, ad hujusmodi officium per nos acceptatum, auctoritate nostra in Capitulo nostro publice nominetis. Dat. etc.

480.—Littera Fratri Thomæ de Guodwyneston pro eodem negotio. (Oct. (1332.) 25 *a*.

The Archbishop's resident monk is informed that the Chapter resent the form of the Archbishop's last letter, and send an amended one to be

Salutem. Dominus noster Cantuariensis scripsit nobis et Capitulo nostro de acceptatione Fratris Edmundi de Adesham in Pœnitentiarium suum, sed suæ scripturæ forma non placuit confratribus nostris, dicentibus, eam derogare juri Ecclesiæ nostræ; qua ratione scribimus Domino nostro communi; ut ipse aliam formam,[1] quam sibi mittimus, pro quiete bonæ pacis observanda, velit sigillo suo signatam nobis transmittere. Cujus negotii diligentem vos esse volumus executorem, ac etiam velocis expeditionis

[1] 479 is the form alluded to.

sealed with the Archbishop's seal.

procuratorem felicem; et litteræ quas Domino mittimus per vos Domino nostro tradantur. Valete, etc.

(Oct. 1332.)

L. 25 *b*.

481.—Littera missa Domino S. de Cherryngg de negotio proxime infrascripto.

A similar account is given to another person who has access to the Archbishop.

In Christo veram salutem. Dominus noster Cantuariensis nobis et Capitulo nostro scripsit de acceptatione Fratris Edmundi de Adesham in Pœnitentiarium suum, sed forma scripturæ suæ non placuit confratribus nostris, affermantibus, eam, ut eis videtur, esse contrariam laudabili et antiquæ consuetudini Ecclesiæ nostræ; qua ratione excitata scribimus Domino nostro, ut ipse aliam formam quam sibi mittimus, a se et prædecessoribus suis usitatam ab antiquo, placeat, sigillo suo signatam, nobis, pro bonæ pacis quiete inter nos et confratres nostros confovenda, transmittere per præsentium portitorem. Cujus missionis negotium vos credimus feliciter accellerare, vestram amicitiam rogantes ut credulitas nostra suo felici effectu non frustretur. Valete in Christo qui nos in se ipso faciat semper convalere. Dat. etc.

Oct. 1332.

L. 24 *b*.

482.—Littera confortationis directa Johanni de Notynghamme rectori ecclesiæ de Boclonde.

The rector of Buckland, replaced in his cure, has written to tell the Prior that his reinstatement is not yet complete. What re-

Salutem. Recepimus litteras vestras continentes gratiosam expeditionem vestram, pro qua diu laborastis; sed ne per hujusmodi gratia flatus vanæ gloriæ inaniter vos extollat, in molendino, secundum quod nobis scripsistis, conturbationis adversitas vos ad tempus credimus detinere; super quo remedium providebit Qui gratiæ supradictæ vobis contulit ubertatem. Et in immensum nobis placet, quod inter vos et parochianos vestros caritas viget, et efficaciter apparet unitas

sanctæ pacis. Adhuc, quia super casu vestro a nobis quæritis adjutorium remedii, vestram discretionem nolumus latere, quin, quamcitius commode potuerimus, juxta parvitatem nostræ discretionis, pro statu vestro, juris peritos, cum eorum præsentiam valuerimus optinere, diligently consulemus, et vos interim patienter adversa sustinete; scientes scriptum esse, *Omnes qui placuerunt Deo per multas tribulationes transierunt fideles;* de quorum numero esse poteritis si in passione tribulationis, sanctæ patientiæ virtutem studueritis felici perseverantia conservare. Valete in Christo, quem præ oculis habete, et sic viriliter agere et in omnibus operibus gratiose valebitis expedire. Dat. etc.

mains to be done in the case the Prior promises to do.

483.—Processus et condempnatio Magistri Icherii de Concoreto contra Dominum S. Archiepiscopum, directa diversis decanis, de bonis suis levandis in maneriis ejusdem per Augustinenses.

13 Nov. 1332.
L. 185 *a*.

Reverendis in Christo patribus [et] dominis, Dei gratia Wygorniensi, Exoniensi, ac Bathoniensi et Wellensi Episcopis, ac venerabilibus et religiosis viris Abbati de Langedon, Priori de Horton, Priori de Beremundeseia, Præmonstratensis et Cluniacensis ordinum, Archidiacono Lewesensi in Ecclesia Cicestrensi, Cantuariensis, Wyntoniensis, et Londoniensis diœcesium, ac discretis viris Magistro Willelmo de Nassyngton canonico Exoniensi, Bernardo Viventio canonico Sancti Æmiliani Burdegalensis, necnon Officiali Archidiaconi Cantuariensis, et Decanis Cantuariensi, de Westbere, de Sandwyco, de Bregge, de Lymene, de Cheryngg, et eorum cuilibet insolidum, Icherius de Concoreto Canonicus Saresberiensis, Domini nostri Papæ et Apostolicæ Sedis in Anglia, Scocia, Wallia, et Hibernia, Nuntius, ac Judex unicus in causa seu causis infrascriptis, per ipsius Sedis infrascriptas litteras,

Icherius de Concoreto, Papal Nuntius and Judge delegated to hear the cause between St. Augustine's Abbey appellants and Archbishop Meopham defendant, gives judgment against the Archbishop, with costs taxed at seven hundred pounds,

and directs several Bishops, Priors, and other clergy to employ ecclesiastical censures against the Archbishop to compel him to pay these costs.

specialiter deputatus, salutem in qui est omnium vera salus. Dudum sanctissimus pater in Christo et dominus noster, Dominus Johannes divina providentia Papa xxij^dus causam seu causas, appellationis seu appellationum, et negotii principalis, quæ vertebantur, seu verti sperabantur, inter religiosos viros Abbatem et Conventum Monasterii Sancti Augustini Cantuariensis, ad Romanam Ecclesiam, nullo medio, pertinentis, ordinis Sancti Benedicti, eorumque subditos, parochianos, et sibi adhærentes, ex parte una, et reverendum in Christo patrem Dominum Symonem Dei gratia Cantuariensem Archiepiscopum ex altera, nobis audiendas, simul vel separatim, simpliciter, et de plano, ac sine strepitu judiciario et figura, ac fine debito terminandas, commisit prout in Apostolicis litteris super hoc confectis plenius continetur; quarum litterarum tenor sequitur, in hæc verba:

The Judge's commission, which recites that the Archbishop had molested the Abbey in the matter of its total exemption from episcopal jurisdiction.

Bulla.—Johannes, Episcopus, servus servorum Dei, dilecto filio Magistro Icherio de Concoreto Canonico Saresburiensi, salutem et apostolicam benedictionem. Significarunt nobis dilecti filii Abbas et Conventus Monasterii Sancti Augustini Cantuariensis, ad Romanam Ecclesiam, nullo medio, pertinentis, ordinis Sancti Benedicti, quod licet monasterium ipsum, cum omnibus membris suis a tempore fundationis ipsius, et a tempore et per tempus cujus principii memoria hominum non existit, fuit et sit per specialia privilegia Sedis Apostolicæ exemptum a quacumque jurisdictione et potestate cujuslibet Ordinarii, et præsertim per privilegium super exemptione hujusmodi per felicis recordationis Bonifacium papam VIII^um, prædecessorem nostrum, eis concessum, pro se et omnibus membris suis, ecclesiis, capellis, atque locis et personis quibuslibet sibi subjectis, ubilibet constitutis; tamen, venerabilis frater noster Symon Archiepiscopus Cantuariensis, qui nunc est, dictorum privilegiorum et exemptionis hujusmodi plenam et sufficientem notitiam habens, seu

valens habere, prædictos Abbatem et Conventum, super dictis ecclesiis, bonis, juribus, et personis Monasterii memorati, et aliis super quibus sunt dictæ exemptionis privilegio communiti, tam in civitate et diœcesi Cantuariensibus quam extra, et contra exemptionem et privilegia supradicta, molestavit et perturbavit, et adhuc molestat, vexat, et perturbat eosdem aliasque personas eis subjectas, seu dictis privilegiis communitas, citando, citationesque vagas et incertas ad loca ubicumque fuerit in sua provincia, monendo, mandando, visitando, quantum in eo est, et processus alios per se et alios faciendo, subtrahendo etiam eis advocatos et tabelliones eisdem assistere alias volentes pro defensione exemptionis et libertatis prædictarum, propter quæ, seu aliqua ex prædictis, fuit et est, pro parte dictorum Abbatis et Conventus, etiam sæpius ad eandem Sedem appellatum; quodque idem Archiepiscopus appellationibus hujusmodi differre non curat, sed eosdem Abbatem et Conventum ac subditos et parochianos suos, eis ut præmittitur adhærentes, contra privilegia, exemptiones, et appellationes prædictas, in eorum magnum præjudicium gravare non cessat. Quare nobis iidem Abbas et Conventus humiliter supplicarunt, ut providere eis super præmissis de opportuno remedio paterna diligentia curaremus. Quocirca discretioni tuæ per appostolica scripta committimus et mandamus, quatinus, vocatis qui fuerint evocandi, omnes et singulas causam seu causas appellationis seu appellationum hujusmodi, pro parte ipsorum Abbatis et Conventus ac subditorum suorum, parochianorumque ecclesiarum suarum sibi adhærentium, ad sedem interjectarum eandem, a gravaminibus et injuriosis processibus, factis et illatis per præfatum Archiepiscopum, et alios suo nomine, in ipsorum Abbatis et Conventus subditorum, ac parochianorum, et libertatis et exemptionis dicti Monasterii et membrorum ejus præjudicium ut præfertur; necnon causam seu causas

nullitatis dictorum processuum et negotiorum principalium, cum omnibus dependentibus et emergentibus ab eisdem, quæ inter ipsos Abbatem et Conventum, subditos, et parochianos, ex parte una, et Archiepiscopum præfatum ex altera vertuntur, seu verti sperantur, simpliciter, et de plano, ac sine strepitu et figura judicii; auctoritate prædicta, simul vel separatim, audias. Inhibens nichilominus, auctoritate prædicta, eidem Archiepiscopo, prout fuerit rationis, ne super præmissis interim in eorum Abbatis et Conventus ac jurisdictionis tuæ præjudicium aliquid, per se vel alium seu alios, indebite attemptare seu innovare præsumat; ac causas prædictas, omnes et singulas, simul vel separatim, appellatione remota, debito fine decidas; faciens quod decreveris, auctoritate nostra, per censuras ecclesiasticas firmiter observari. Non obstantibus, dicti Bonefacii, prædecessoris nostri, quo cavetur: "ne "judices a Sede Apostolica deputati extra civitatem et "diœcesim in quibus deputati fuerint procedere, ac alii "seu aliis vices suas committere, aut aliquos ultra unam "diætam a fine suæ diœcesis ad judicium evocare "præsumant," dummodo ultra duas diætas aliquis, auctoritate præsentium, non trahatur; quam aliis quibuscumque constitutionibus a prædecessoribus nostris Romanis Pontificibus editis, quæ tuæ possent in hac parte jurisdictioni, aut potestati, ejusque libero exercitio, quomodolibet obviare; seu si prædicto Archiepiscopo vel quibusvis aliis, conjunctim vel divisim, a Sede Apostolica sit indultum, quod excommunicari, suspendi, vel interdici, vel extra seu ultra certa loca ad judicium evocari[1] non possint, per litteras apostolicas non facientes plenam et expressam, ac de verbo ad verbum, de indulto hujusmodi mentionem; et qualibet alia dictæ Sedis indulgentia generali vel speciali, cujuscumque tenoris existant, per quam præsentibus

[1] evocare MS.

non expressam vel totaliter non insertam[1] tuæ jurisdictionis explicatio in hac parte valeat quomodolibet impediri, et de qua, cujusque toto tenore, habenda sit in nostris litteris mentio specialis. Data Avinoniæ vj° Kalendas Augusti pontificatus nostri anno quartodecimo.

Quarum igitur auctoritate litterarum, ad instantiam religiosorum prædictorum, in hujusmodi causis et negotiis legitime procedentes, juris ordine in omnibus observato, diffinitivam sententiam pro eisdem religiosis et contra dictum Dominum Archiepiscopum, sub certa forma juxta juris exigentiam, in scriptis protulimus; eundem Dominum Archiepiscopum in expensis legitimis, per eosdem religiosos in hujusmodi causis et negotiis factis, per eundem Dominum Archiepiscopum solvendis, inter cetera legitime condempnantes, earum taxatione tunc nobis imposterum reservata; quas quidem expensas ad septingentas libras sterlingorum, solvendas eisdem religiosis per Dominum Archiepiscopum supradictum, nobiscum et cum peritis plena deliberatione et taxatione nostra præhabita, ac Fratris Stephani de Hakynton, monachi dicti Monasterii et procuratoris Abbatis et Conventus dicti Monasterii juramento secuto, legitime taxavimus, justitia exigente, prout hæc, in instrumentis publicis inde confectis nostroque sigillo munitis, plenius continentur. Quia igitur parum prodesset sententiam ferri nisi executioni debitæ mandaretur, vobis nostris et aliis, sub certa forma, dedimus litteris in mandatis, ut eundem Dominum Archiepiscopum, ex parte nostra, canonice et peremptorie moneretis, seu moneret alter vestrum, ut infra certi temporis spatium tunc expressum, jam diu est elapsum, de dicta summa pecuniæ, in qua per nos ut præmittitur extitit legitime condempnatus, eisdem religiosis competenter satisfacere

The Judge's sentence recited.

[1] incertam, MS.

procuraret. Et licet vos, Decane Cantuariensis prædicte, soli in hujusmodi negotio procedentes, prout ex earundem nostrarum poteratis continentia litterarum, easdem litteras nostras executioni debitæ demandaveritis, prout ex vestris certificatoriis litteris didicimus; dictus tamen Archiepiscopus de eadem summa pecuniæ eisdem religiosis, prout ex eorum iterata relatione querula nobis monstratum extitit, infra tempus prædictum, satisfacere non curavit, nec etiam postea diutius expectatus; quocirca vos Dominos Episcopos, et vestrum quemlibet, cum reverentia qua decet, et sub obedientia qua Sedi Apostolicæ tenemini, requirimus et monemus vobis *vero aliis*,[1] et vestrum cuilibet, in virtute sanctæ obedientiæ, et sub pœna excommunicationis quam in vos et vestrum quemlibet, canonica monitione præmissa, ferimus in hiis scriptis, nisi feceritis quod mandamus, districte præcipimus, committimus, et mandamus, quatinus alter vestrum alterum non exspectet, nec alter pro altero se excuset, sed qui super hoc fuerit requisitus hujusmodi negotium secundum sui exigentiam viriliter exequatur; tantum de fructibus, redditibus, et proventibus ecclesiasticis, ad dictum Dominum Archiepiscopum et suam mensam archiepiscopalem, vel alias quomodolibet, spectantibus, quos nos etiam auctoritate apostolica sequestramus et ad manus dicti domini nostri Papæ ponimus, auctoritate prædicta, quousque ad summam prædictam earundem septingentarum librarum attigerint, juxta exigentiam legitimam, per vos seu vestrum alterum faciendum, sequestretis, et ad manus dicti domini nostri Papæ ponatis, levetis, colligatis, exigatis, recipiatis, et custodiatis sic fideliter et solerter, quod de ipsis nobis plenarie possitis reddere rationem. Inhibentes quibuscunque, personis pontificale dignitate præfulgentibus duntaxat exceptis, quibus ob pontificalis re-

[1] *ut alias?*

verentiam dignitatis deferre volumus in hac parte, sub pœna excommunicationis, quam, canonica monitione præmissa, in impeditores, contradictores, et rebelles, exnunc pro extunc, ferimus in hiis scriptis, easdem vero personas dicta pontificale præditas dignitate, cum reverentia qua decet, in virtute sanctæ obedientiæ, requirimus canonice et monemus, ne vos, aut vestrum aliquem, in hiis quæ vobis et vestrum cuilibet in hac parte committimus exequenda, quomodolibet impediant seu perturbent, sed vobis in præmissis pareant et intendant; alias contra personas easdem, si contrarium fecerint, de quo nobis potestatem omnimodam reservavimus prout etiam tenore præsentium reservamus, gravius prout suadebit justitia processuri. Et de hiis quæ feceritis in præmissis, ac de nominibus impeditorum, contradictorum,[1] et rebellium, ac monitorum, nos, cum pro parte dictorum religiosorum fueritis requisiti, certificare curetis per vestras litteras patentes. Data Londoniis sub sigillo quo utimur in officio nuntiationis nostræ, die tertiadecima mensis Novembris, anno Domini MCCCXXXIJ^do.

484.—PROCESSUS DOMINI ICHERII, UNA CUM MONITIONIBUS FACTIS IN ECCLESIA CANTUARIENSI DIE VENERIS PROXIMA ANTE FESTUM PURIFICATIONIS BEATÆ MARIÆ, ANNO DOMINI MCCCXXXIJ^do, ET HÆ MONITIONES TANGUNT DOMINUM S. ARCHIEPISCOPUM, PER QUAS MONETUR SUB PŒNIS SUSPENSIONIS AB INGRESSU ECCLESIÆ ET A DIVINIS, AC EXCOMMUNICATIONIS, UT SATISFACIAT AUGUSTINENSIBUS DE SEPTINGENTIS LIBRIS STERLINGORUM INFRA TEMPUS INFERIUS LIMITATUM.

22 Jan. 1333, published 29 Jan. 1333. L. 186 *a*.

Reverendis in Christo patribus (sicut in litteris præcedentibus usque ad verba: *secundum sui exigentiam viriliter exequatur*), ex parte nostra, canonice et

The same judges are required to announce

[1] impedientium, contradicentium?

that if the Archbishop do not pay the costs to which he has been condemned within thirty days, then he shall be ipso facto suspended *a divinis*, and if he remain obdurate another thirty he shall be excommunicated.

peremptorie iterato moneatis, seu moneat alter vestrum, dictum Dominum Archiepiscopum, in sua Cantuariensi metropolitana ecclesia et alias, viis et modis quibus moneri potuerit, quem nos etiam canonice et peremptorie, tenore praesentium, monemus, ut infra triginta dies, a die monitionis vestræ continue numerandos, quorum decem pro primo, decem pro secundo, et reliquos decem pro tertio et peremptorio termino, ac monitione canonica assignamus eidem, prædictis religiosis de dictis septingentis libris, in quibus per nos ut præmittitur extitit legitime condempnatus, satisfaciat competenter. Quodsi monitionibus hujusmodi contempserit obedire, eidem, exnunc pro extunc, dicta canonica peremptoria monitione præmissa, ingressum ecclesiæ interdicimus in hiis scriptis. Et si prædictum interdictum per alios triginta dies, prædictos triginta immediate sequentes, quos sibi pro simili monitione canonica assignamus, sustinuerit, ipsum, exnunc pro extunc, eadem canonica monitione præmissa, in hiis scriptis suspendimus a divinis. Si vero interdictum et suspensionem prædicta per alios triginta dies, præfatos sexaginta immediate sequentes, quos sibi eadem monitione canonica assignamus, sustinuerit, quod absit, animo indurato, ipsum, exnunc prout extunc, propter contemptum hujusmodi, dicta canonica et peremptoria monitione præmissa, in hiis scriptis, excommunicationis sententia innodamus; aliis quibuscunque processibus, præmissa seu eorum aliquod quomodolibet contingentibus, per nos seu auctoritate nostra factis, nichilominus in suo robore duraturis; absolutione præmissorum nobis vel superiori nostro tantummodo reservata. Reserventes etiam nobis nichilominus, tenore præsentium, potestatem in hiis causis et negotiis procedendi ulterius, prout nobis videbitur, et fuerit rationis. Et de hiis quæ feceritis in præmissis, ac die monitionis vestræ et forma, nos infra quindecim dies, diem vestræ monitionis hujusmodi immediate sequentes, certificare

curetis, per vestras litteras harum seriem continentes. Data Londoniis sub sigillo officii nostri Domini M°CCC°XXXIJ^do.[1]

485.—Littera directa H. de Lappeflode Ballivo nostro de Dockombe, de receptione redditus nostri ibidem, et de aliis contentis ut patet in littera. 20 Nov. 1332. L. 28 *b*.

Salutem in Christo. Inspeximus litteras vestras, quas ex parte vestra nobis tradidit Johannes de Kyngwell præpositus noster de Dockombe; quibus intellectis, recepimus ab eodem Johanne, pro redditu nostro de Dockombe de anno regni Regis Edwardi tertii post conquestum quinto, sex libras octo solidos, et sic tenetur nobis dictus præpositus in triginta quinque solidis sex denariis obolo, sicut patet in pede computi ultimi per vos nobis transmissi; quam pecuniam quamcitius commode poteritis levare faciatis. Quoad quinquaginta solidos, in quibus nobis tenentur tenentes nostri de Dockombe pro quadam taxatione, de qua nobis scripsistis, Dominus Walterus, filius vester, nobis voluntatem nostram, ut nobis promisit, fideliter communicabit. Adhuc placet nobis quod dicto præposito, nativo nostro, tradita est terra nostra, sub forma secundum quam nobis scripsistis; et quoad alium tenementum nostrum, de quo conquerimini per cujusdam narrationis superfluitatem, vobis, ex parte nostra, dictus Dominus W., filius vester, dicet, ut credimus, quod sentimus. Ceterum, mittimus ad vos per latorem præsentium acquietantiam de pecunia, ut superius fit mentio, per nos recepta. Valete in Christo, et valeant qui vos feliciter valere desiderant et videre. Datum

The Prior acknowledges the payment of the rent of the manor of Doccombe.

[1] The Archbishop died within the year under this sentence of excommunication, and could not be buried until his dead body was absolved.

Cantuariæ die Sancti Edmundi Regis, anno Domini M°CCC^mo XXXIJ^do.

(Nov. 1332.)

486.—De terra tradenda apud Dockombe.

L. 28 *b*.

The Prior directs that the land which one bondman has deserted at Doccombe may be given to another. He objects to one of his bondwomen marrying a free man.

Intelleximus quod quidam, qui vocatur Robertus de Pyppindenn, tenuit quandam portionem terræ de tenura nostra de Dockombe, quam deseruit quando per vos ad præceptum nostrum, sicut alii tenentes nostri taxabantur, fuerat taxatus; quam terram, sic desertam, per vestræ discretionis arbitrium, volumus tradi seu liberari alicui de nativis nostris; et idem placet de aliis portionibus terrarum nostrarum apud Dockombe, si quæ fuerint, ibidem tradendæ, etc.

Hæc forma proxime præscripta non fuit missa sed alia quæ proxime subsequitur.

Audivimus quod quædam mulier, quæ vocatur Agnes de Smalregg, nativa nostra, vellet contrahere matrimonium, si placeret nobis, cum quodam libero viro qui dicitur Ricardus filius Rogeri le Tonsore de Morton; sed non videtur nobis neque consilio nostro quod hujusmodi contractus posset fieri sine præjudicio Ecclesiæ nostræ. Adhuc intelleximus quod quidam, nomine Robertus de Pyppindenne, tenuit quandam por-

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Nov. 1332.

488.—Littera regrationis missa R. de Ely.

L. 28 *b*.

The London agent of the Convent gives up his office, and the Prior proposes to appoint his serjeant in his place. He asks:

Salutz, etc. Pur ceo qe nous avoms entendu qe vous ne poetz bonement entendre a noz busoignes, qi nous touchent en la Cite de Loundres, sicom vous solietz faire (qe nous poise), nous vous mercioms moult, et savoms grant grec del temps qe vous nous avez servi bien lealment, pur le quel service nous et nostre Esglise seroms le plus tenuz a vous et a les voz. Et pur ceo qe nous avoms bone affeccion vers Thomas de May vostre Seriant, pur lamour de vous, volontiers

tionem terræ in tenura nostra de Dockombe, quam deseruit quando per vos, inter alios tenentes nostros, ibidem bona sua fuerant taxata, etc. quam terram, sic desertam, per vestræ discretionis arbitrium, volumus tradi seu liberari alicui vel aliquibus de nativis nostris qui ipsam de jure non possunt vendicare. Idem etiam placet nobis de aliis portionibus, etc. *ut supra.*

487.—Littera supplicatoria missa Domino Archiepiscopo Cantuariensi pro canonicis Sancti Gregorii Cantuariæ. (Nov. 1332.) L. 28 *b.*

The Prior introduces to the Archbishop a messenger from the Prior of St Gregory's, Canterbury.

Devoto Patri, suus filius obedientiam, reverentiam, et honorem. Devotis petentium desideriis, quæ a rationis tramite non deviant, solet clementer annuere dignitas pastoralis. Hac ratione motus, de vestra benignitate caritativa confidens, humiliter vos requiro, quatinus vos, Priori Sancti Gregorii Cantuariæ et suis confratribus paternæ pietatis compatientes affectu, latorem præsentium pro negotiis dictorum canonicorum ad vos accedentem, mei rogaminis interventu, dignemini misericordius exaudire et felicius expedire. Valete, Pater meus in Christo. Dat. Cant. etc.

488.

Greeting, &c. Whereas we have heard that you cannot easily attend to the affairs which concern us in the City of London as you used to do (which grieves us), we thank you greatly, and we are grateful for the time during you have served us so truly, for which service we and our Church shall be the more obliged to you and yours. And because we have a strong affection for Thomas le May, your Serjeant, out of respect for you, we should be willing to agree for him to manage our said

the retiring agent to attend to the purchase of the cloth for the Easter liveries.

voudrioms a luy assentier de faire noz dites busoignes, sil plaise a noz fraires et qe vous meismes voillez accordier. Et vous prioms especialment, qe vous nous voillez purver la livere pur les robes de noz servantz encountre Pasch proschein avenier, sicom vous soliez faire ; et nous vous froms la paie, solonc ceo qe poms accordier. Endroit de cestes choses nous voillez maundier vostre volente aplustost com vous purrez, ensemblement ove vostre estat. A Dieu etc

(1332.) L. 190 *b.*

489.—Littera supplicatoria pro corporibus mortuorum sepeliendis.

The Prior is asked to officiate at the funeral of some person at Faversham and to stay to the funeral feast.

A tres honurable homme et sage R. par la grace de Dieu Priour del Esglise de Canterbirs, N. de T. si luy plest, honurs et reverences. Tres honurable Seignur, pur ceo qe J. de B. est a Dieu commandez, qe Dieux assoille, et serra enterre a Faversham y ceo Dymeinge proschein avener, vous prie humblement, qil plese a vostre bone Seignurie tant humilier, qe vous y voillez estre et le dit corps enterrer. Et, sil vous plese, voillez demorrer pur honurer par vostre presence les bonez gentz qi la serront adonqes amaunger. Nostre Seignur vous ait en sa garde, et vous donit bone vie et longe.

(1332.) L. 190 *b.*

490.—Responsio ad eandem litteram.

The Prior replies to the preceding invitation, but in his answer he writes as if the executor who invited him were dead, and as if

Salutz. Pur ceo qe nous avoms entenduz par voz lettres qe nostre bien amez en Dieu N. de T., vostre piere, est a Dieu commaundez, et serra enterre a Faversham y ceo Demeigne proschein avener, sachez qe, par la grant affeccion qil avoit a nostre Esglise et a vostre requeste, al aide de Dieu, nous y vendroms al dit jour, a faire lenterrement avantdit. Mais quant a demorrer a manger, molt vous mercioms de vostre bone volente, mais, pur ceo qe ceo nest mye la

affairs, if it please our brethren, and if you yourself are willing to consent. And we especially pray you that you will provide the livery cloth for the gowns of our servants against next Easter, as you have been used to do; and we will pay according as we may be able to agree. As to these things, please to send word of your wishes as soon as you can, together with a report of the state of your health. Adieu, &c.

489.

To the right honourable and prudent R., by the grace of God Prior of the Church of Canterbury, N. de T., if he please, honour and reverence. Right honourable Lord, whereas J. de B., whom God absolve, is summoned to God, and will be buried at Faversham on Sunday next coming, we humbly pray you that it may please your good Lordship to so far condescend as to be there, and to read the burial service over the said corpse. And if you will be so kind, please to remain and honour by your presence the good people who will then be there at dinner. Our Lord have you in his keeping, and grant you a good and a long life.

490.

Greeting. Whereas we have learned from your letters that our well-beloved N. de T., your father, is called to God, and will be buried Faversham on Sunday next coming; know that, in return for the great love which he had for our Church, and in compliance with your request, by God's help, we will come on the said day, and read the burial service aforesaid. But as to staying to dinner, we thank you much for your good will, but, inasmuch as that is not customary in our Church, it is

the invitation had come from the deceased.

coustume de nostre Esglise, y covient qe vous nous avez excusez; kar si nous le puissoms faire sanz offens nous le freyoms bonement. A Dieu, etc.

(1332.) L. 190 *b*. Sir W. Clinton, Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports and afterwards Earl of Huntingdon, has asked for some deer to stock his park at Elham, and the Prior orders the Parker to give him six does from Westwell.

491.—Littera directa Parkario nostro de Welles pro damis liberandis W. de Clynton.

Salutz. Pur ceo qe nous sumes prie par Monsire W. de Clynton de luy faire un aide de ascunes bestes pur estocer son Park de Elham, nous vous commaundoms, qe vous luy facetz liverer six bestes femeles, issint qe par encheson de les dites bestes autre damage ne soit fait en nostre Park de Welles sur peril qi apent. Donez, etc.

492.—Littera directa J. de Ifelde Senescallo nostro pro diversis negotiis nostris expediendis.

1332. L. 19 *a*. Instructions to the Chief Seneschal. The cause with St. Martin's, Dover, being again adjourned, to the damage of Christ Church, there is no need to give a present to the Counsel.

A son Seneschal Monsire J. de Ifelde, Richard par la soeffraunce de Dieu Priour, etc., salutz et bon amour. Sachez qe nous savoms grant gre, de les noveles qe vous nous avetz maunde de diverses matires qi nous touchent et nostre Esglise; et nomeement, qe nous serroms bien embleye en la garde de Essex, et de ceo qe nous sumes hors de toil en cele parties sauve un debat, sicome est contenuz en voz lettres. Mais qant a Robert de Derteford; ne vous desplese, kar nous ne avoms pas cause verroye daustier celuy qi est ore en le office ou le dit Robert feust, et pur ceo nous entendoms par obloquie de respitier cel point desques a vostre venue. Estre ceo, pur ceo qe nous avoms entendu par lalme qi feut en vostre lettre, qe nous ne averoms ore altre esploit de noz busoignes de Douvre mesqe destre ajourne, ysemble a nous qe y nest myc affaire a ceste foith de regardier Monsire Richard

good that you should hold us excused; for if we could comply without offence we would gladly do it.

491.

Greeting. Whereas we have been asked by Sir W. Clynton to give him the help of some animals towards stocking his park at Elham, we command you that you cause six does to be delivered to him, so arranging that, by reason of the said deer, no farther injury may be done in our park at Westwell, under the penalty in such cases provided.

492.

To his Seneschal Sir J. de Ifelde, Richard by God's permission, Prior, &c., greeting and true affection. Know that we have great satisfaction in the news which you have sent us concerning many matters which touch us and our Church; and especially that we are well quit of the ward (of the sea) in Essex, and for that we are out of trouble in those parts except for one dispute, as is contained in your letters. But as to Robert of Dartford; be not offended, for we have no just cause for displacing him who is now in the office which the said Robert held, and therefore we intend on the contrary to defer this point until your arrival. Be this as it may, because we have perceived by the spirit of your letter, that we shall have at present no farther success in the Dover business than to be adjourned, it seems to us, that there is no need at this time for rewarding Sir Richard Wyleby, for the delay will be dangerous; never-

The Chancellor is willing to let the Convent have the city ditch (and wall) if the citizens will agree to it.

Wyleby, pur ceo qe yliad peril en le delay; nespurquant, si vous et Thomas de Faversham par bon avisement veietz qil faut affaire, nous voloms bien qil soit fait. Auxint, quant a Chauncellier nostre Seignur le Roy, nous luy avoms mercie et touche de approprier cele fosse de Brodestrete de hors les mures de la ville de Canterbirs, et nous ad respondu bonement qil nous fra aver la appropriacion, issi qe nous aioms pur nous les burgeys de la ville; et pur ceo nous vous prioms qentre vous et Thomas voillez aver ceste chose au cuer. Et voillez savoir, qe au jour de la date de ceste lettre, honure soyt Dieux, nous sumes en bon estat du corps et dalme, sicom nous esperoms al aide de Dieu. Et unqore prioms qe vous voillez toutes les choses susdites communier a Thomas vostre compaignon. A Dieu, etc.

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5 Jan. 1333.

493. — LITTERA EXCUSATORIA DIRECTA UNIVERSITATI OXONIENSI SUPER GRATIA EIS FIERI PER NOS NON POSSIT.

The Chancellor of the University of Oxford has written to the Prior asking for a subscription, but in answer he pleads poverty and declines to subscribe.

Viris reverendæ discretionis, Domino Cancellario Universitatis Oxoniensis, cœtuique Magistrorum in eadem existentium, Ricardus permissione divina, etc. salutem, cum suffragiis orationum devotarum. Fulgens et redolens filialis gratitudo libenter materna desideria, et maxime quæ a rationis tramite non deviant, nititur, toto virtutis suæ conamine, cum valuerit, efficaciter adimplere. Nos vero ad præfatam Universitatem aciem mentis nostræ, ut specialiter tenemur tanquam filius, dirigentes, litteras vestras læti recepimus in Vigilia Epiphaniæ Domini, per Johannem de Aldeswell vestrum clientem, quibus inspectis et intellectis, tristes aliqualiter reddebamur, scientes quod, pro malitiæ mundialis adversitate, quæ hiis diebus multipliciter contra nos arcum suum tetendit et sedulis insidiis per-

theless, if you and Thomas of Faversham after mature consideration believe that it ought to be done, by all means let it be done. Again as to the Chancellor of our Lord the King, we have thanked him, and approached the subject of the appropriation of the ditch in Broad Street bounding the walls of the City of Canterbury, and he has answered us favourably that he will procure that we shall have it, provided that we have the citizens on our side ; and therefore we pray that you and Thomas will interest yourselves in this matter. And please to understand that on the day of the date of this letter (God be praised) we were in good health of body and mind, as far as we know, by God's mercy. And again we pray you to communicate all the before-mentioned affairs to your colleague Thomas.

---

sequitur incessanter, votis vestris, juxta exigentiam prædictarum litterarum vestrarum, hac vice annuere non valemus. Valete in Christo, sine cujus gratia nichil salubriter poterit edoceri. Datum Cantuariæ in Vigilia Epiphaniæ Domini anno Domini M°CCC^mo^XXXIJ^do^.

494.—Littera directa Magistro Roberto de Thresk, procuratori nostro in Curia Romana, de procuratorio suo sibi directo. (Jan. 1333.) L. 29 *a*.

Salutem. Nos audivimus placentia nobis de conversatione vestra et scientia, per Magistrum Robertum de Soleby rectorem ecclesiæ de Icham, ad cujus instantiam nos et Capitulum nostrum nuper vos fecimus procuratorem nostrum in Curia Romana, et litteras procuratorias recepit a nobis dictus Magister Robertus vobis dirigendas; sed si hujusmodi litteras reciperitis nescimus adhuc. Quocirca rogamus vos, quatinus per latorem præsentium nos litteratorie certificetis super

The proctor at the Curia is assured of the Prior's confidence in him, and he is asked to ascertain where some valuable

documents are which were lately sent to Rome.

hoc quod nos latet in hac parte. Misimus etiam de cancellaria nostra Magistro Nicholao de Soleby quasdam litteras sigillatas, tangentes Monasterium Sancti Augustini Cantuariæ, quæ inter nos quasi privilegiatæ reputantur, et placeret nobis scire in cujus custodia remanent litteræ prædictæ. Dicitur nobis quod sunt in custodia Magistri Johannis Loterel; super hoc inquiratis si placet, nobis rescribentes super hujusmodi inquisitione voluntatem vestram

Adhuc scribitur . . . . . sicut scitis, ut patet in littera quæ nuper fuerat missa Magistro Ricardo de Soleby.[1]

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
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For Her Majesty's Stationery Office.
[1242.—750.—4/87.]

CATALOGUE

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ENGLAND.

CALENDARS OF STATE PAPERS, &c.

[Imperial 8vo., cloth. *Price* 15*s*. each Volume or Part.]

As far back as the year 1800, a Committee of the House of Commons recommended that Indexes and Calendars should be made to the Public Records, and thirty-six years afterwards another Committee of the House of Commons reiterated that recommendation in more forcible words; but it was not until the incorporation of the State Paper Office with the Public Record Office that the Master of the Rolls found himself in a position to take the necessary steps for carrying out the wishes of the House of Commons.

On 7 December 1855, he stated to the Lords of the Treasury that although "the Records, State Papers, and Documents in his charge constitute the most "complete and perfect series of their kind in the civilized world," and although "they are of the greatest value in a historical and constitutional point of view, "yet they are comparatively useless to the public, from the want of proper "Calendars and Indexes." Acting upon the recommendations of the Committees of the House of Commons above referred to, he suggested to the Lords of the Treasury that to effect the object he had in view it would be necessary for him to employ a few Persons fully qualified to perform the work which he contemplated.

Their Lordships assented to the necessity of having Calendars prepared and printed, and empowered the Master of the Rolls to take such steps as might be necessary for this purpose.

The following Works have been already published under the direction of the Master of the Rolls:—

Calendarium Genealogicum; for the Reigns of Henry III. and Edward I. *Edited by* Charles Roberts, Esq., Secretary of the Public Record Office, 2 Vols. 1865.

This is a work of great value for elucidating the early history of our nobility and landed gentry.

Calendar of State Papers, Domestic Series, of the Reigns of Edward VI., Mary, Elizabeth, and James I., preserved in Her Majesty's Public Record Office. *Edited by* Robert Lemon, Esq., F.S.A. (Vols. I. and II.), *and by* Mary Anne Everett Green, (Vols. III.–XII.). 1856–1872.

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These Calendars render accessible to investigation a large and important mass of historical materials. The Northern Rebellion of 1566-67; the plots of the Catholic fugitives in the Low Countries; numerous designs against Queen Elizabeth and in favour of a Catholic succession; the Gunpowder-plot; the rise and fall of Somerset; the Overbury murder; the disgrace of Sir Edward

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CALENDAR OF STATE PAPERS, DOMESTIC SERIES, OF THE REIGN OF CHARLES I., preserved in Her Majesty's Public Record Office. *Edited by* JOHN BRUCE, Esq., F.S.A., (Vols. I.–XII.); *by* JOHN BRUCE, Esq., F.S.A., and WILLIAM DOUGLAS HAMILTON, Esq., F.S.A., (Vol. XIII.); and *by* WILLIAM DOUGLAS HAMILTON, Esq., F.S.A., (Vols. XIV.–XVII.). 1858–1882.

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This Calendar presents notices of a large number of original documents of great value to all inquirers relative to the history of the period to which it refers, many hitherto unknown.

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Vol. XI.—1657–1658.
Vol. XII.—1658–1659.
Vol. XIII.—1659–1660.

This Calendar is in continuation of those during the reigns from Edward VI. to Charles I., and contains a mass of new information.

CALENDAR OF STATE PAPERS, DOMESTIC SERIES, OF THE REIGN OF CHARLES II., preserved in Her Majesty's Public Record Office. *Edited by* MARY ANNE EVERETT GREEN. 1860–1866.

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These are the first three volumes of the modern series of Domestic Papers, commencing with the accession of George III.

CALENDAR OF STATE PAPERS relating to SCOTLAND, preserved in Her Majesty's Public Record Office. *Edited by* MARKHAM JOHN THORPE, Esq., of St. Edmund Hall, Oxford. 1858.

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Vol. II., the Scottish Series, of the Reign of Elizabeth, 1589–1603; an Appendix to the Scottish Series, 1543–1592; and the State Papers relating to Mary Queen of Scots.

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CALENDAR OF DOCUMENTS relating to IRELAND, in Her Majesty's Public Record Office, London. *Edited by* HENRY SAVAGE SWEETMAN, Esq., B.A., Trinity College, Dublin, Barrister-at-Law (Ireland); *continued by* GUSTAVUS FREDERICK HANDCOCK, Esq. 1875–1886.

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CALENDAR OF LETTERS AND PAPERS, FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC, OF THE REIGN OF HENRY VIII., preserved in Her Majesty's Public Record Office, the British Museum, &c. *Edited by* J. S. BREWER, M.A., Professor of English Literature, King's College, London (Vols. I.–IV.); and *by* JAMES GAIRDNER, Esq., (Vols. V., VI., VII., VIII., and IX.) 1862–1886.

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CALENDAR OF STATE PAPERS, FOREIGN SERIES, OF THE REIGN OF EDWARD VI., preserved in Her Majesty's Public Record Office. 1547–1553. *Edited by* W. B. TURNBULL, Esq., of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister-at-Law, &c. 1861.

CALENDAR OF STATE PAPERS, FOREIGN SERIES, OF THE REIGN OF MARY, preserved in Her Majesty's Public Record Office. 1553–1558. *Edited by* W. B. TURNBULL, Esq., of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister-at-Law, &c. 1861.

The two preceding volumes exhibit the negotiations of the English ambassadors with the courts of the Emperor Charles V. of Germany, of Henry II. of France, and of Philip II. of Spain. The affairs of several of the minor continental states also find various incidental illustrations of much interest. The Papers descriptive of the circumstances which attended the loss of Calais merit a special notice; while the progress of the wars in the north of France, into which England was dragged by her union with Spain, is narrated at some length. These volumes treat only of the relations of England with foreign powers.

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The Carew Papers relating to Ireland, in the Lambeth Library, are unique and of great importance to all students of Irish history.

CALENDAR OF LETTERS, DESPATCHES, AND STATE PAPERS, relating to the Negotiations between England and Spain, preserved in the Archives at Simancas, and elsewhere. *Edited by* G. A. BERGENROTH 1862–1868.

Vol. I.—Hen. VII.—1485–1509.
Vol. II.—Hen. VIII.—1509–1525.
Supplement to Vol. I. and Vol. II.

Mr. Bergenroth was engaged in compiling a Calendar of the Papers relating to England preserved in the archives of Simancas in Spain and the corresponding portion removed from Simancas to Paris. Mr. Bergenroth also visited Madrid, and examined the Papers there, bearing on the reign of Henry VIII. The first volume contains the Spanish Papers of the reign of Henry VII.; the second volume, those of the first portion of the reign of Henry VIII. The Supplement contains new information relating to the private life of Queen Katherine of England; and to the projected marriage of Henry VII. with Queen Juana, widow of King Philip of Castile, and mother of the Emperor Charles V.

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Vol. IV., Part 2.—Hen. VIII.—1531–1533.
Vol. IV., Part 2.—*continued.*—Hen. VIII.—1531–1533.
Vol. V., Part 1.—Hen. VIII.—1534–1536.

Upon the death of Mr. Bergenroth, Don Pascual de Gayangos was appointed to continue the Calendar of the Spanish State Papers. He has pursued a similar plan to that of his predecessor, but has been able to add much valuable matter from Brussels and Vienna, with which Mr. Bergenroth was unacquainted.

CALENDAR OF STATE PAPERS AND MANUSCRIPTS, relating to ENGLISH AFFAIRS, preserved in the Archives of Venice, &c. *Edited by* RAWDON BROWN, Esq. 1864–1884.

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Vol. V.—1534–1554.
Vol. VI., Part I.—1555–1556.
Vol. VI., Part II.—1556–1557.
Vol. VI., Part III.—1557–1558.

Mr. Rawdon Brown's researches have brought to light a number of valuable documents relating to various periods of English history ; his contributions to historical literature are of the most interesting and important character.

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CALENDAR OF STATE PAPERS AND MANUSCRIPTS, relating to ENGLISH AFFAIRS, preserved in the Archives of Venice, &c. Vol. VII.—1559, &c.

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CALENDAR OF STATE PAPERS relating to IRELAND, OF THE REIGN OF ELIZABETH, preserved in Her Majesty's Public Record Office. *Edited by* HANS CLAUDE HAMILTON, Esq., F.S.A. Vol. V.—1592–1594.

CALENDAR OF LETTERS AND PAPERS, FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC, OF THE REIGN OF HENRY VIII., preserved in Her Majesty's Public Record Office, the British Museum, &c. *Edited by* JAMES GAIRDNER, Esq. Vol. X.—1536.

In Progress.

CALENDAR OF STATE PAPERS, COLONIAL SERIES, preserved in Her Majesty's Public Record Office, and elsewhere. *Edited by* W. NOEL SAINSBURY, Esq. Vol. VII.—America and West Indies, 1669, &c. Vol. VIII.—East Indies, 1630, &c.

CALENDAR OF TREASURY PAPERS, preserved in Her Majesty's Public Record Office. *Edited by* JOSEPH REDINGTON, Esq. Vol. VI.—1720, &c.

THE CHRONICLES AND MEMORIALS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND DURING THE MIDDLE AGES.

[Royal 8vo. half-bound. *Price* 10*s.* each Volume or Part.]

On 25 July 1822, the House of Commons presented an address to the Crown, stating that the editions of the works of our ancient historians were inconvenient and defective; that many of their writings still remained in manuscript, and, in some cases, in a single copy only. They added, "that an uniform and convenient edition of the whole, published under His Majesty's royal sanction, would be an undertaking honourable to His Majesty's reign, and conducive to the advancement of historical and constitutional knowledge; that the House therefore humbly besought His Majesty, that He would be graciously pleased to give such directions as His Majesty, in His wisdom, might think fit, for the publication of a complete edition of the ancient historians of this realm, and assured His Majesty that whatever expense might be necessary for this purpose would be made good."

The Master of the Rolls, being very desirous that effect should be given to the resolution of the House of Commons, submitted to Her Majesty's Treasury in 1857 a plan for the publication of the ancient chronicles and memorials of the United Kingdom, and it was adopted accordingly. In selecting these works, it was considered right, in the first instance, to give preference to those of which the manuscripts were unique, or the materials of which would help to fill up blanks in English history for which no satisfactory and authentic information hitherto existed in any accessible form. One great object the Master of the Rolls had in view was to form a *corpus historicum* within reasonable limits, and which should be as complete as possible. In a subject of so vast a range, it was important that the historical student should be able to select such volumes as conformed with his own peculiar tastes and studies, and not be put to the expense of purchasing the whole collection; an inconvenience inseparable from any other plan than that which has been in this instance adopted.

Of the Chronicles and Memorials, the following volumes have been published. They embrace the period from the earliest time of British history down to the end of the reign of Henry VII.

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1. The Chronicle of England, by John Capgrave. *Edited by* the Rev. F. C. Hingeston, M.A., of Exeter College, Oxford. 1858.

   Capgrave was prior of Lynn, in Norfolk, and provincial of the order of the Friars Hermits of England shortly before the year 1464. His Chronicle extends from the creation of the world to the year 1417. As a record of the language spoken in Norfolk (being written in English), it is of considerable value.

2. Chronicon Monasterii de Abingdon. Vols. I. and II. *Edited by* the Rev. Joseph Stevenson, M.A., of University College, Durham, and Vicar of Leighton Buzzard. 1858.

   This Chronicle traces the history of the great Benedictine monastery of Abingdon in Berkshire, from its foundation by King Ina of Wessex, to the reign of Richard I., shortly after which period the present narrative was drawn up by an inmate of the establishment. The author had access to the title-deeds of the house; and incorporates into his history various charters of the Saxon kings, of great importance as illustrating not only the history of the locality but that of the kingdom. The work is printed for the first time.

3. Lives of Edward the Confessor. I.—La Estoire de Seint Aedward le Rei II.—Vita Beati Edvardi Regis et Confessoris. III.—Vita Æduuardi Regis qui apud Westmonasterium requiescit. *Edited by* Henry Richards Luard, M.A., Fellow and Assistant Tutor of Trinity College, Cambridge. 1858.

The first is a poem in Norman French, containing 4,686 lines, addressed to Alianor, Queen of Henry III., probably written in 1245, on the restoration of the church of Westminster. Nothing is known of the author. The second is an anonymous poem, containing 536 lines, written between 1440 and 1450, by command of Henry VI., to whom it is dedicated. It does not throw any new light on the reign of Edward the Confessor, but is valuable as a specimen of the Latin poetry of the time. The third, also by an anonymous author, was apparently written for Queen Edith, between 1066 and 1074, during the pressure of the suffering brought on the Saxons by the Norman conquest. It notices many facts not found in other writers, and some which differ considerably from the usual accounts.

4. Monumenta Franciscana. Vol. I.—Thomas de Eccleston de Adventu Fratrum Minorum in Angliam. Adæ de Marisco Epistolæ. Registrum Fratrum Minorum Londoniæ. *Edited by* J. S. Brewer, M.A., Professor of English Literature, King's College, London. Vol. II.—De Adventu Minorum; re-edited, with additions. Chronicle of the Grey Friars. The ancient English version of the Rule of St. Francis. Abbreviatio Statutorum, 1451, &c. *Edited by* Richard Howlett, Esq., of the Middle Temple, Barrister-at-Law. 1858, 1882.

The first volume contains original materials for the history of the settlement of the order of Saint Francis in England, the letters of Adam de Marisco, and other papers connected with the foundation and diffusion of this great body. It was the aim of the editor to collect whatever historical information could be found in this country, towards illustrating a period of the national history for which only scanty materials exist. None of these have been before printed. The second volume contains materials found, since the first volume was published, among the MSS. of Sir Charles Isham, and in various libraries.

5. Fasciculi Zizaniorum Magistri Johannis Wyclif cum Tritico. Ascribed to Thomas Netter, of Walden, Provincial of the Carmelite Order in England, and Confessor to King Henry the Fifth. *Edited by* the Rev. W. W. Shirley, M.A., Tutor and late Fellow of Wadham College, Oxford. 1858.

This work derives its principal value from being the only contemporaneous account of the rise of the Lollards. When written, the disputes of the schoolmen had been extended to the field of theology, and they appear both in the writings of Wycliff and in those of his adversaries. Wycliff's little bundles of tares are not less metaphysical than theological, and the conflict between Nominalists and Realists rages side by side with the conflict between the different interpreters of Scripture. The work gives a good idea of the controversies at the end of the 14th and the beginning of the 15th centuries.

6. The Buik of the Croniclis of Scotland; or, A Metrical Version of the History of Hector Boece; by William Stewart. Vols. I., II., and III. *Edited by* W. B. Turnbull, Esq., of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister-at-Law, 1858.

This is a metrical translation of a Latin Prose Chronicle, written in the first half of the 16th century. The narrative begins with the earliest legends and ends with the death of James I. of Scotland, and the "evil ending of the traitors that slew him." Strict accuracy of statement is not to be looked for; but the stories of the colonization of Spain, Ireland, and Scotland are interesting if not true; and the chronicle reflects the manners, sentiments, and character of the age in which it was composed. The peculiarities of the Scottish dialect are well illustrated in this version, and the student of language will find ample materials for comparison with the English dialects of the same period, and with modern lowland Scotch.

7. Johannis Cabgrave Liber de Illustribus Henricis. *Edited by* the Rev. F. C. Hingeston, M.A., of Exeter College, Oxford. 1858.

This work is dedicated to Henry VI. of England, who appears to have been, in the author's estimation, the greatest of all the Henries. It is divided into three parts, each having a separate dedication. The first part relates only to the history of the Empire, from the election of Henry I., the Fowler, to the end of the reign of the Emperor Henry VI. The second part is devoted to English history, from the accession of Henry I. in 1100, to 1446, which was the twenty-fourth year of the reign of Henry VI. The third part contains the lives of illustrious men who have borne the name of Henry in various parts of the world. Capgrave was borne in 1393, in the reign of Richard II., and lived during the Wars of the Roses, for which period his work is of some value.

8. Historia Monasterii S. Augustini Cantuariensis, by Thomas of Elmham, formerly Monk and Treasurer of that Foundation. *Edited by* Charles Hardwick, M.A., Fellow of St. Catharine's Hall, and Christian Advocate in the University of Cambridge. 1858.

This history extends from the arrival of St. Augustine in Kent until 1191. Prefixed is a chronology as far as 1418, which shows in outline what was to have been the character of the work when completed. The only copy known is in the possession of Trinity Hall, Cambridge. The author was connected with Norfolk, and most probably with Elmham, whence he derived his name.

9. Eulogium (Historiarum sive Temporis) : Chronicon ab Orbe condito usque ad Annum Domini 1366 ; a Monacho quodam Malmesbiriensi exaratum. Vols. I., II., and III. *Edited by* F. S. Haydon, Esq., B.A. 1858–1863.

This is a Latin Chronicle extending from the Creation to the latter part of the reign of Edward III., and written by a monk of the Abbey of Malmesbury, in Wiltshire, about the year 1367. A continuation, carrying the history of England down to the year 1413, was added in the former half of the fifteenth century by an author whose name is not known. The original Chronicle is divided into five books, and contains a history of the world generally, but more especially of England to the year 1366. The continuation extends the history down to the coronation of Henry V. The Eulogium itself is chiefly valuable as containing a history, by a contemporary, of the period between 1356 and 1366. The notices of events appear to have been written very soon after their occurrence. Among other interesting matter, the Chronicle contains a diary of the Poitiers campaign, evidently furnished by some person who accompanied the army of the Black Prince. The continuation of the Chronicle is also the work of a contemporary, and gives a very interesting account of the reigns of Richard II. and Henry IV. It is believed to be the earliest authority for the statement that the latter monarch died in the Jerusalem Chamber at Westminster.

10. Memorials of Henry the Seventh : Bernardi Andreæ Tholosatis Vita Regis Henrici Septimi; necnon alia quædam ad eundem Regem spectantia. *Edited by* James Gairdner, Esq. 1858.

The contents of this volume are—(1) a life of Henry VII., by his poet laureate and historiographer, Bernard André, of Toulouse, with some compositions in verse, of which he is supposed to have been the author ; (2) the journals of Roger Machado during certain embassies on which he was sent by Henry VII. to Spain and Brittany, the first of which had reference to the marriage of the King's son, Arthur, with Catharine of Arragon ; (3) two curious reports by envoys sent to Spain in 1505 touching the succession to the Crown of Castile, and a project of marriage between Henry VII. and the Queen of Naples ; and (4) an account of Philip of Castile's reception in England in 1506. Other documents of interest are given in an appendix.

11. Memorials of Henry the Fifth. I.—Vita Henrici Quinti, Roberto Redmanno auctore. II.—Versus Rhythmici in laudem Regis Henrici Quinti. III.—Elmhami Liber Metricus de Henrico V. *Edited by* Charles A. Cole, Esq. 1858.

This volume contains three treatises which more or less illustrate the history of the reign of Henry V., viz.: A life by Robert Redman ; a Metrical Chronicle by Thomas Elmham, prior of Lenton, a contemporary author ; Versus Rhythmici, written apparently by a monk of Westminster Abbey, who was also a contemporary of Henry V. These works are printed for the first time.

12. Munimenta Gildhallæ Londoniensis; Liber Albus, Liber Custumarum, et Liber Horn, in archivis Gildhallæ asservati. Vol. I., Liber Albus. Vol. II. (in Two Parts), Liber Custumarum. Vol. III., Translation of the Anglo-Norman Passages in Liber Albus, Glossaries, Appendices, and Index. *Edited by* Henry Thomas Riley, Esq., M.A., Barrister-at-Law. 1859–1862.

The manuscript of the *Liber Albus*, compiled by John Carpenter, Common Clerk of the City of London in the year 1419, a large folio volume, is preserved in the Record Room of the City of London. It gives an account of the laws, regulations, and institutions of that City in the 12th, 13th, 14th, and early part of the 15th centuries. The *Liber Custumarum* was compiled probably by various hands in the early part of the 14th century during the reign of Edward II. The manuscript, a folio volume, is also preserved in the Record Room of the City of London, though some portion in its original state, borrowed from the City in the reign of Queen Elizabeth and never returned, forms part of the Cottonian MS. Claudius D. II. in the British Museum. It also gives an account of the laws, regulations, and institutions of the City of London in the 12th, 13th, and early part of the 14th centuries.

13. Chronica Johannis de Oxenedes. *Edited by* Sir Henry Ellis, K.H. 1859.

Although this Chronicle tells of the arrival of Hengist and Horsa in England in 449, yet it substantially begins with the reign of King Alfred, and comes down to 1292, where it ends abruptly. The history is particularly valuable for notices of events in the eastern portions of the Kingdom, not to be elsewhere obtained. Some curious facts are mentioned relative to the floods in that part of England, which are confirmed in the Friesland Chronicle of Anthony Heinrich, pastor of the Island of Mohr.

14. A Collection of Political Poems and Songs relating to English History, from the Accession of Edward III. to the Reign of Henry VIII. Vols. I. and II. *Edited by* Thomas Wright, Esq., M.A. 1859–1861.

These Poems are perhaps the most interesting of all the historical writings of the period, though they cannot be relied on for accuracy of statement. They are various in character; some are upon religious subjects, some may be called satires, and some give no more than a court scandal; but as a whole they present a very fair picture of society, and of the relations of the different classes to one another. The period comprised is in itself interesting, and brings us through the decline of the feudal system, to the beginning of our modern history. The songs in old English are of considerable value to the philologist.

15. The "Opus Tertium," "Opus Minus," &c., of Roger Bacon. *Edited by* J. S. Brewer, M.A., Professor of English Literature, King's College, London. 1859.

This is the celebrated treatise—never before printed—so frequently referred to by the great philosopher in his works. It contains the fullest details we possess of the life and labours of Roger Bacon: also a fragment by the same author, supposed to be unique, the "*Compendium Studii Theologiæ.*"

16. Bartholomæi de Cotton, Monachi Norwicensis, Historia Anglicana; 449–1298: necnon ejusdem Liber de Archiepiscopis et Episcopis Angliæ. *Edited by* Henry Richards Luard, M.A., Fellow and Assistant Tutor of Trinity College, Cambridge. 1859.

The author, a monk of Norwich, has here given us a Chronicle of England from the arrival of the Saxons in 449 to the year 1298, in or about which year it appears that he died. The latter portion of this history (the whole of the reign of Edward I. more especially) is of great value, as the writer was contemporary with the events which he records. An Appendix contains several illustrative documents connected with the previous narrative.

17. Brut y Tywysogion; or, The Chronicle of the Princes of Wales. *Edited by* the Rev. John Williams ab Ithel, M.A. 1860.

This work, also known as "The Chronicle of the Princes of Wales," has been attributed to Caradoc of Llancarvan, who flourished about the middle of the twelfth century. It is written in the ancient Welsh language, begins with the abdication and death of Caedwala at Rome, in the year 681, and continues the history down to the subjugation of Wales by Edward I., about the year 1282.

18. A Collection of Royal and Historical Letters during the Reign of Henry IV. 1399–1404. *Edited by* the Rev. F. C. Hingeston, M.A., of Exeter College, Oxford. 1860.

This volume, like all the others in the series containing a miscellaneous selection of letters, is valuable on account of the light it throws upon biographical history, and the familiar view it presents of characters, manners, and events. The period requires much elucidation; to which it will materially contribute.

19. The Repressor of over much Blaming of the Clergy. By Reginald Pecock, sometime Bishop of Chichester. Vols. I. and II. *Edited by* Churchill Babington, B.D., Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge. 1860.

The "Repressor" may be considered the earliest piece of good theological disquisition of which our English prose literature can boast. The author was born about the end of the fourteenth century, consecrated Bishop of St. Asaph in the year 1444, and translated to the see of Chichester in 1450. While Bishop of St. Asaph, he zealously defended his brother prelates from the attacks of those who censured the bishops for their neglect of duty. He maintained that it was no part of a bishop's functions to appear in the pulpit, and that his time might be more profitably spent, and his dignity better maintained, in the performance of works of a higher character. Among those who thought differently were the Lollards, and against their general doctrines the "Repressor" is directed. Pecock took up a position midway between that of the Roman Church and that of the modern Anglican Church; but his work is interesting chiefly because it gives a full account of the views of the Lollards and of the arguments by which they were supported, and because it assists us to ascertain the state of feeling which ultimately led to the Reformation. Apart from religious matters, the light thrown upon contemporaneous history is very small, but the "Repressor" has great value for the philologist, as it tells us what were the characteristics of the language in use among the cultivated Englishmen of the fifteenth century. Pecock, though an opponent of the Lollards, showed a certain spirit of toleration, for which he received, towards the end of his life, the usual mediæval reward—persecution.

20. Annales Cambriæ. *Edited by* the Rev. John Williams ab Ithel, M.A. 1860.

These annals, which are in Latin, commence in 447, and come down to 1288. The earlier portion appears to be taken from an Irish Chronicle, used by Tigernach, and by the compiler of the Annals of Ulster. During its first century it contains scarcely anything relating to Britain, the earliest direct concurrence with English history is relative to the mission of Augustine. Its notices throughout, though brief, are valuable. The annals were probably written at St. Davids, by Blegewryd, Archdeacon of Llandaff, the most learned man in his day in all Cymru.

21. The Works of Giraldus Cambrensis. Vols. I., II., III., and IV. *Edited by* J. S. Brewer, M.A., Professor of English Literature, King's College, London. Vols. V., VI., and VII. *Edited by* the Rev. James F. Dimock, M.A., Rector of Barnburgh, Yorkshire. 1861–1877.

These volumes contain the historical works of Gerald du Barry, who lived in the reigns of Henry II., Richard I., and John, and attempted to re-establish the independence of Wales by restoring the see of St. Davids to its ancient primacy. His works are of a very miscellaneous nature, both in prose and verse, and are remarkable chiefly for the racy and original anecdotes which they contain relating to contemporaries. He is the only Welsh writer of any importance who has contributed so much to the mediæval literature of this country, or assumed, in consequence of his nationality, so free and independent a tone. His frequent travels in Italy, in France, in Ireland, and in Wales, gave him opportunities for observation which did not generally fall to the lot of mediæval writers in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, and of these observations Giraldus has made due use. Only extracts from these treatises have been printed before and almost all of them are taken from unique manuscripts.

The Topographia Hibernica (in Vol. V.) is the result of Giraldus' two visits to Ireland. The first in 1183, the second in 1185–6, when he accompanied Prince John into that country. Curious as this treatise is, Mr. Dimock is of opinion that it ought not to be accepted as sober truthful history, for Giraldus himself states that truth was not his main object, and that he compiled the work for the purpose of sounding the praises of Henry the Second. Elsewhere, however, he declares that he had stated nothing in the Topographia of the truth of which he was not well assured, either by his own eyesight or by the testimony, with all diligence elicited, of the most trustworthy and authentic men in the country; that though he did not put just the same full faith in their reports as in what he had himself seen, yet, as they only related what they had themselves seen, he could not but believe such credible witnesses. A very interesting portion of this treatise is devoted to the animals of Ireland. It shows that he was a very accurate and acute observer, and his descriptions are given in a way that a scientific naturalist of the present day could hardly improve upon. The Expugnatio Hibernica was written about 1188 and may be regarded rather as a great epic than a sober relation of acts occurring in his own days. No one can peruse it without coming to the conclusion that it is rather a poetical fiction than a prosaic truthful history. Vol. VI. contains the Itinerarium Kambriæ et Descriptio Kambriæ: and Vol. VII., the lives of S. Re migius and S. Hugh.

22. Letters and Papers illustrative of the Wars of the English in France during the Reign of Henry the Sixth, King of England. Vol. I., and Vol. II. (in Two Parts). *Edited by* the Rev. Joseph Stevenson, M.A., of University College, Durham, and Vicar of Leighton Buzzard. 1861–1864.

These letters and papers are derived chiefly from originals or contemporary copies extant in the Bibliothèque Impériale, and the Depôt des Archives, in Paris. They illustrate the policy adopted by John Duke of Bedford and his successors during their government of Normandy, and other provinces of France acquired by Henry V. Here may be traced, step by step, the gradual declension of the English power, until we are prepared for its final overthrow.

23. The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, according to the several Original Authorities. Vol. I., Original Texts. Vol. II., Translation. *Edited and translated by* Benjamin Thorpe, Esq., Member of the Royal Academy of Sciences at Munich, and of the Society of Netherlandish Literature at Leyden. 1861.

This Chronicle, extending from the earliest history of Britain to 1154, is justly the boast of England; no other nation can produce any history, written in its own vernacular, at all approaching it, in antiquity, truthfulness, or extent, the historical books of the Bible alone excepted. There are at present six independent manuscripts of the Saxon Chronicle, ending in different years, and written in different parts of the country. In this edition, the text of each manuscript is printed in columns on the same page, so that the student may see at a glance the various changes which occur in orthography, whether arising from locality or age.

24. Letters and Papers illustrative of the Reigns of Richard III. and Henry VII. Vols. I. and II. *Edited by* James Gairdner, Esq. 1861–1863.

The Papers are derived from the MSS. in Public Record Office, the British Museum, and other repositories. The period to which they refer is unusually destitute of chronicles and other sources of historical information, so that the light obtained from them is of special importance. The principal contents of the volumes are some diplomatic Papers of Richard III.; correspondence between Henry VII. and Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain; documents relating to Edmund de la Pole, Earl of Suffolk; and a portion of the correspondence of James IV. of Scotland.

25. Letters of Bishop Grosseteste, illustrative of the Social Condition of his Time. *Edited by* Henry Richards Luard, M.A., Fellow and Assistant Tutor of Trinity College, Cambridge. 1861.

The Letters of Robert Grosseteste (131 in number) are here collected from various sources, and a large portion of them is printed for the first time. They range in

date from about 1210 to 1253, and relate to various matters connected not only with the political history of England during the reign of Henry III., but with its ecclesiastical condition. They refer especially to the diocese of Lincoln, of which Grosseteste was bishop.

26. Descriptive Catalogue of Manuscripts relating to the History of Great Britain and Ireland. Vol. I. (in Two Parts); Anterior to the Norman Invasion. Vol. II.; 1066-1200. Vol. III.; 1200–1327. *By* Sir Thomas Duffus Hardy, D.C.L., Deputy Keeper of the Public Records. 1862–1871.

The object of this work is to publish notices of all known sources of British history, both printed and unprinted, in one continued sequence. The materials, when historical (as distinguished from biographical), are arranged under the year in which the latest event is recorded in the chronicle or history, and not under the period in which its author, real or supposed, flourished. Biographies are enumerated under the year in which the person commemorated died, and not under the year in which the life was written. This arrangement has two advantages; the materials for any given period may be seen at a glance; and if the reader knows the time when an author wrote, and the number of years that had elapsed between the date of the events and the time the writer flourished, he will generally be enabled to form a fair estimate of the comparative value of the narrative itself. A brief analysis of each work has been added when deserving it, in which original portions are distinguished from mere compilations. If possible, the sources are indicated from which compilations have been derived. A biographical sketch of the author of each piece has been added, and a brief notice of such British authors as have written on historical subjects.

27. Royal and other Historical Letters illustrative of the Reign of Henry III. Vol. I., 1216–1235. Vol. II., 1236–1272. *Selected and edited by* the Rev. W. W. Shirley, D.D., Regius Professor in Ecclesiastical History, and Canon of Christ Church, Oxford. 1862–1866.

The letters contained in these volumes are derived chiefly from the ancient correspondence formerly in the Tower of London, and now in the Public Record Office. They illustrate the political history of England during the growth of its liberties, and throw considerable light upon the personal history of Simon de Montfort. The affairs of France form the subject of many of them, especially in regard to the province of Gascony. The entire collection consists of nearly 700 documents, the greater portion of which is printed for the first time.

28. Chronica Monasterii S. Albani.—1. Thomæ Walsingham Historia Anglicana; Vol. I., 1272–1381: Vol. II., 1381–1422. 2. Willelmi Rishanger Chronica et Annales, 1259–1307. 3. Johannis de Trokelowe et Henrici de Blaneforde Chronica et Annales, 1259–1296; 1307–1324; 1392–1406. 4. Gesta Abbatum Monasterii S. Albani, a Thoma Walsingham, regnante Ricardo Secundo, ejusdem Ecclesiæ Præcentore, compilata; Vol. I., 793–1290: Vol. II., 1290–1349: Vol. III., 1349–1411. 5. Johannis Amundesham, Monachi Monasterii S. Albani, ut videtur, Annales; Vols. I. and II. 6. Registra quorundam Abbatum Monasterii S. Albani, qui sæculo xv^mo^ floruere; Vol. I., Registrum Abbatiæ Johannis Whethamstede, Abbatis Monasterii Sancti Albani, iterum susceptæ; Roberto Blakeney, Capellano, quondam adscriptum: Vol. II., Registra Johannis Whethamstede, Willelmi Albon, et Willelmi Walingforde, Abbatum Monasterii Sancti Albani, cum Appendice, continente quasdam Epistolas, a Johanne Whethamstede Conscriptas. 7. Ypodigma Neustriæ a Thoma Walsingham, quondam Monacho Monasterii S. Albani, conscriptum. *Edited by* Henry Thomas Riley, Esq., M.A., Cambridge and Oxford; and of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-Law. 1863–1876.

In the first two volumes is a History of England, from the death of Henry III. to the death of Henry V., by Thomas Walsingham, Precentor of St. Albans, from MS. VII. in the Arundel Collection in the College of Arms, London, a manuscript of the fifteenth century, collated with MS. 13 E. IX. in the King's Library in the British Museum, and MS. VII. in the Parker Collection of Manuscripts at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.

In the 3rd volume is a Chronicle of English History, attributed to William Rishanger, who lived in the reign of Edward I., from the Cotton MS. Faustina B. IX. in the British Museum, collated with MS. 14 C. VII. (fols. 219–231) in the King's Library, British Museum, and the Cotton MS. Claudius E. III. fols. 306–331 : an account of transactions attending the award of the kingdom of Scotland to John Balliol, 1291–1292, from MS. Cotton. Claudius D. VI., also attributed to William Rishanger, but on no sufficient ground : a short Chronicle of English History, 1292 to 1300, by an unknown hand, from MS. Cotton. Claudius D. VI. : a short Chronicle Willelmi Rishanger Gesta Edwardi Primi, Regis Angliæ, from MS. 14 C. I. in the Royal Library, and MS. Cotton. Claudius D. VI., with Annales Regum Angliæ, probably by the same hand : and fragments of three Chronicles of English History, 1285 to 1307.

In the 4th volume is a Chronicle of English History, 1259 to 1296, from MS. Cotton. Claudius D. VI. : Annals of Edward II., 1307 to 1323, by John de Trokelowe, a monk of St. Albans, and a continuation of Trokelowe's Annals, 1323, 1324, by Henry de Blaneforde, both from MS. Cotton. Claudius D. VI. : a full Chronicle of English History, 1392 to 1406, from MS. VII. in the Library of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge; and an account of the Benefactors of St. Albans, written in the early part of the 15th century from MS. VI. in the same Library.

The 5th, 6th, and 7th volumes contain a history of the Abbots of St. Albans, 793 to 1411, mainly compiled by Thomas Walsingham, from MS. Cotton. Claudius E. IV., in the British Museum : with a Continuation, from the closing pages of Parker MS. VII., in the Library of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.

The 8th and 9th volumes, in continuation of the Annals, contain a Chronicle, probably by John Amundesham, a monk of St. Albans.

The 10th and 11th volumes relate especially to the acts and proceedings of Abbots Whethamstede, Albon, and Wallingford, and may be considered as a memorial of the chief historical and domestic events during those periods.

The 12th volume contains a compendious History of England to the reign of Henry V., and of Normandy in early times, also by Thomas Walsingham, and dedicated to Henry V. The compiler has often substituted other authorities in place of those consulted in the preparation of his larger work. -

29. Chronicon Abbatiæ Eveshamensis, Auctoribus Dominico Priore Eveshamiæ et Thoma de Marleberge Abbate, a Fundatione ad Annum 1213, una cum Continuatione ad Annum 1418. *Edited by* the Rev. W. D. Macray, Bodleian Library, Oxford. 1863.

The Chronicle of Evesham illustrates the history of that important monastery from its foundation by Egwin, about 690, to the year 1418. Its chief feature is an autobiography, which makes us acquainted with the inner daily life of a great abbey, such as but rarely has been recorded. Interspersed are many notices of general, personal, and local history which will be read with much interest. This work exists in a single MS., and is for the first time printed.

30. Ricardi de Cirencestria Speculum Historiale de Gestis Regum Angliæ. Vol. I., 447–871. Vol. II., 872–1066. *Edited by* John E. B. Mayor, M.A., Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge. 1863–1869.

The compiler, Richard of Cirencester, was a monk of Westminster, 1355–1400. In 1391 he obtained a licence to make a pilgrimage to Rome. His history, in four books, extends from 447 to 1066. He announces his intention of continuing it, but there is no evidence that he completed any more. This chronicle gives many charters in favour of Westminster Abbey, and a very full account of the lives and miracles of the saints, especially of Edward the Confessor, whose reign occupies the fourth book. A treatise on the Coronation, by William of Sudbury, a monk of Westminster, fills book iii. c. 3. It was on this author that C. J. Bertram fathered his forgery, *De Situ Brittaniæ*, in 1747.

31. Year Books of the Reign of Edward the First. Years 20–21, 21–22, 30–31, 32–33, and 33–35 Edw. I.; and 11–12 Edw. III. *Edited and translated by* Alfred John Horwood, Esq., of the Middle Temple, Barrister-

at-Law. Years 12–13, 13–14 Edward III. *Edited and translated by* Luke Owen Pike, Esq., M.A., of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister-at-Law. 1863–1886.

The volumes known as the "Year Books" contain reports in Norman-French of Cases argued and decided in the Courts of Common Law. They may be considered to a great extent as the "lex non scripta" of England, held in the highest veneration by the ancient sages of the law, and received by them as the repositories of the first recorded judgments and dicta of the great legal luminaries of past ages. They are also worthy of attention on account of the historical information and the notices of public and private persons which they contain, as well as the light which they throw on ancient manners and customs.

32. Narratives of the Expulsion of the English from Normandy 1449–1450. —Robertus Blondelli de Reductione Normanniæ: Le Recouvrement de Normendie, par Berry, Hérault du Roy: Conferences between the Ambassadors of France and England. *Edited, from MSS. in the Imperial Library at Paris, by* the Rev. Joseph Stevenson, M.A., of University College, Durham. 1863.

This volume contains the narrative of an eye-witness who details with considerable power and minuteness the circumstances which attended the final expulsion of the English from Normandy in 1450. Commencing with the infringement of the truce by the capture of Fougères, and ending with the battle of Formigny and the embarkation of the Duke of Somerset. The period embraced is less than two years.

33. Historia et Cartularium Monasterii S. Petri Gloucestriæ. Vols. I., II., and III. *Edited by* W. H. Hart, Esq., F.S.A., Membre correspondant de la Société des Antiquaires de Normandie. 1863–1867.

This work consists of two parts, the History and the Cartulary of the Monastery of St. Peter, Gloucester. The history furnishes an account of the monastery from its foundation, in the year 681, to the early part of the reign of Richard II., together with a calendar of donations and benefactions. It treats principally of the affairs of the monastery, but occasionally matters of general history are introduced. Its authorship has generally been assigned to Walter Froucester the twentieth abbot, but without any foundation.

34. Alexandri Neckam de Naturis Rerum libri duo; with Neckam's Poem, De Laudibus Divinæ Sapientiæ. *Edited by* Thomas Wright, Esq., M.A. 1863.

Neckam was a man who devoted himself to science, such as it was in the twelfth centuary. In the "De Naturis Rerum" are to be found what may be called the rudiments of many sciences mixed up with much error and ignorance. Neckham was not thought infallible, even by his contemporaries, for Roger Bacon remarks of him, "this Alexander in many things wrote what was true and useful; "but he neither can nor ought by just title to be reckoned among authorities." Neckam, however, had sufficient independence of thought to differ from some of the schoolmen who in his time considered themselves the only judges of literature. He had his own views in morals, and in giving us a glimpse of them, as well as of his other opinions, he throws much light upon the manners, customs, and general tone of thought prevalent in the twelfth century. The poem entitled "De Laudibus Divinæ Sapientiæ" appears to be a metrical paraphrase or abridgment of the "De Naturis Rerum." It is written in the elegiac metre, and though there are many lines which violate classical rules, it is, as a whole, above the ordinary standard of mediæval Latin.

35. Leechdoms, Wortcunning, and Starcraft of Early England; being a Collection of Documents illustrating the History of Science in this Country before the Norman Conquest. Vols. I., II., and III. *Collected and edited by* the Rev. T. Oswald Cockayne, M.A., of St. John's College, Cambridge, 1864–1866.

This work illustrates not only the history of science, but the history of superstition. In addition to the information bearing directly upon the medical skill and medical faith of the times, there are many passages which incidentally throw light upon the general mode of life and ordinary diet. The volumes are interesting

not only in their scientific, but also in their social aspect. The manuscripts from which they have been printed are valuable to the Anglo-Saxon scholar for the illustrations they afford of Anglo-Saxon orthography.

36. Annales Monastici. Vol. I.:—Annales de Margan, 1066–1232; Annales de Theokesberia, 1066–1263; Annales de Burton, 1004–1263. Vol. II.:—Annales Monasterii de Wintonia. 519–1277; Annales Monasterii de Waverleia, 1–1291. Vol. III.:—Annales Prioratus de Dunstaplia, 1–1297. Annales Monasterii de Bermundeseia, 1042–1432. Vol. IV.:—Annales Monasterii de Oseneia, 1016–1347; Chronicon vulgo dictum Chronicon Thomæ Wykes, 1066–1289; Annales Prioratus de Wigornia, 1–1377. Vol. V.:—Index and Glossary. *Edited by* Henry Richards Luard, M.A., Fellow and Assistant Tutor of Trinity College, and Registrary of the University, Cambridge. 1864–1869.

The present collection of Monastic Annals embraces all the more important chronicles compiled in religious houses in England during the thirteenth century. These distinct works are ten in number. The extreme period which they embrace ranges from the year 1 to 1432, although they refer more especially to the reigns of John, Henry III., and Edward I. Some of these narratives have already appeared in print, but others are printed for the first time.

37. Magna Vita S. Hugonis Episcopi Lincolniensis. From MSS. in the Bodleian Library, Oxford, and the Imperial Library, Paris. *Edited by* the Rev. James F. Dimock, M.A., Rector of Barnburgh, Yorkshire. 1864.

This work contains a number of very curious and interesting incidents, and being the work of a contemporary, is very valuable, not only as a truthful biography of a celebrated ecclesiastic, but as the work of a man, who, from personal knowledge, gives notices of passing events, as well as of individuals who were then taking active part in public affairs. The author, in all probability, was Adam Abbot of Evesham. He was domestic chaplain and private confessor of Bishop Hugh, and in these capacities was admitted to the closest intimacy. Bishop Hugh was Prior of Witham for 11 years before he became Bishop of Lincoln. His consecration took place on the 21st September 1186; he died on the 16th of November 1200; and was canonized in 1220.

38. Chronicles and Memorials of the Reign of Richard the First. Vol. I.:—Itinerarium Peregrinorum et Gesta Regis Ricardi. Vol. II.:—Epistolæ Cantuarienses; the Letters of the Prior and Convent of Christ Church, Canterbury; 1187 to 1199. *Edited by* William Stubbs, M.A., Vicar of Navestock, Essex, and Lambeth Librarian. 1864–1865.

The authorship of the Chronicle in Vol. I., hitherto ascribed to Geoffrey Vinesauf, is now more correctly ascribed to Richard, Canon of the Holy Trinity of London. The narrative extends from 1187 to 1199; but its chief interest consists in the minute and authentic narrative which it furnishes of the exploits of Richard I., from his departure from England in Decembar 1189 to his death in 1199. The author states in his prologue that he was an eye-witness of much that he records; and various incidental circumstances which occur in the course of the narrative confirm this assertion.

The letters in Vol. II., written between 1187 and 1199, are of value as furnishing authentic materials for the history of the ecclesiastical condition of England during the reign of Richard I. They had their origin in a dispute which arose from the attempts of Baldwin and Hubert, archbishops of Canterbury, to found a college of secular canons, a project which gave great umbrage to the monks of Canterbury, who saw in it a design to supplant them in their function of metropolitan chapter. These letters are printed, for the first time, from a MS. belonging to the archiepiscopal library at Lambeth.

39. Recueil des Croniques et anchiennes Istories de la Grant Bretaigne a present nomme Engleterre, par Jehan de Waurin. Vol. I. Albina to 688. Vol. II., 1399–1422. Vol. III., 1422–1431. *Edited by* Sir William Hardy, F.S.A. 1864–1879. Vol. IV. 1431–1443. *Edited by* Sir William Hardy, F.S.A., and Edward L. C. P. Hardy, Esq., F.S.A., of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister-at-law. 1884.

40. A Collection of the Chronicles and ancient Histories of Great Britain, now called England, by John de Wavrin. Albina to 688. (Translation

of the preceding Vol. I.) *Edited and translated by* Sir WILLIAM HARDY, F.S.A. 1864.

This curious chronicle extends from the fabulous period of history down to the return of Edward IV. to England in the year 1471 after the second deposition of Henry VI. The manuscript from which the text of the work is taken is preserved in the Imperial Library at Paris, and is believed to be the only complete and nearly contemporary copy in existence. The work, as originally bound, was comprised in six volumes, since rebound in morocco in 12 volumes, folio maximo, vellum, and is illustrated with exquisite miniatures, vignettes, and initial letters. It was written towards the end of the fifteenth century, having been expressly executed for Louis de Bruges, Seigneur de la Gruthuyse and Earl of Winchester, from whose cabinet it passed into the library of Louis XII. at Blois.

41. POLYCHRONICON RANULPHI HIGDEN, with Trevisa's Translation. Vols. I. and II. *Edited by* CHURCHILL BABINGTON, B.D., Senior Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge. Vols. III., IV., V., VI., VII., VIII., and IX. *Edited by* the Rev. JOSEPH RAWSON LUMBY, D.D., Norrisian Professor of Divinity, Vicar of St. Edward's, Fellow of St. Catharine's College, and late Fellow of Magdalene College, Cambridge. 1865–1886.

This is one of the many mediæval chronicles which assume the character of a history of the world. It begins with the creation, and is brought down to the author's own time, the reign of Edward III. Prefixed to the historical portion, is a chapter devoted to geography, in which is given a description of every known land. To say that the Polychronicon was written in the fourteenth century is to say that it is not free from inaccuracies. It has, however, a value apart from its intrinsic merits. It enables us to form a very fair estimate of the knowledge of history and geography which well-informed readers of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries possessed, for it was then the standard work on general history.

The two English translations, which are printed with the original Latin, afford interesting illustrations of the gradual change of our language, for one was made in the fourteenth century, the other in the fifteenth. The differences between Trevisa's version and that of the unknown writer are often considerable.

42. LE LIVERE DE REIS DE BRITTANIE E LE LIVERE DE REIS DE ENGLETERE. *Edited by* JOHN GLOVER, M.A., Vicar of Brading, Isle of Wight, formerly Librarian of Trinity College, Cambridge. 1865.

These two treatises, though they cannot rank as independent narratives, are nevertheless valuable as careful abstracts of previous historians, especially "Le Livere de Reis de Engletere." Some various readings are given which are interesting to the philologist as instances of semi-Saxonized French. It is supposed that Peter of Ickham was the supposed author.

43. CHRONICA MONASTERII DE MELSA AB ANNO 1150 USQUE AD ANNUM 1406. Vols. I., II., and III. *Edited by* EDWARD AUGUSTUS BOND, Esq., Assistant-Keeper of Manuscripts, and Egerton Librarian, British Museum. 1866–1868.

The Abbey of Meaux was a Cistercian house, and the work of its abbot is both curious and valuable. It is a faithful and often minute record of the establishment of a religious community, of its progress in forming an ample revenue, of its struggles to maintain its acquisitions, and of its relations to the governing institutions of the country. In addition to the private affairs of the monastery, some light is thrown upon the public events of the time, which are however kept distinct, and appear at the end of the history of each abbot's administration. The text has been printed from what is said to be the autograph of the original compiler, Thomas de Burton, the nineteenth abbot.

44. MATTHÆI PARISIENSIS HISTORIA ANGLORUM, SIVE, UT VULGO DICITUR, HISTORIA MINOR. Vols. I., II., and III. 1067–1253. *Edited by* Sir FREDERIC MADDEN, K.H., Keeper of the Manuscript Department of British Museum. 1866–1869.

The exact date at which this work was written is, according to the chronicler, 1250. The history is of considerable value as an illustration of the period during which the author lived, and contains a good summary of the events which followed

the Conquest. This minor chronicle is, however, based on another work (also written by Matthew Paris) giving fuller details, which has been called the "Historia Major." The chronicle here published, nevertheless, gives some information not to be found in the greater history.

45. Liber Monasterii de Hyda: a Chronicle and Chartulary of Hyde Abbey, Winchester, 455–1023. *Edited, from a Manuscript in the Library of the Earl of Macclesfield, by* Edward Edwards, Esq. 1866.

The "Book of Hyde" is a compilation from much earlier sources which are usually indicated with considerable care and precision. In many cases, however, the Hyde Chronicler appears to correct, to qualify, or to amplify—either from tradition or from sources of information not now discoverable—the statements, which, in substance, he adopts. He also mentions, and frequently quotes from writers whose works are either entirely lost or at present known only by fragments.

There is to be found, in the "Book of Hyde," much information relating to the reign of King Alfred which is not known to exist elsewhere. The volume contains some curious specimens of Anglo-Saxon and Mediæval English.

46. Chronicon Scotorum: a Chronicle of Irish Affairs, from the Earliest Times to 1135; and Supplement, containing the Events from 1141 to 1150. *Edited, with Translation, by* William Maunsell Hennessy, Esq., M.R.I.A. 1866.

There is, in this volume, a legendary account of the peopling of Ireland and of the adventures which befell the various heroes who are said to have been connected with Irish history. The details are, however, very meagre both for this period and for the time when history becomes more authentic. The plan adopted in the chronicle gives the appearance of an accuracy to which the earlier portions of the work cannot have any claim. The succession of events is marked year by year, from A.M. 1599 to A.D. 1150. The principal events narrated in the later portion of the work are, the invasions of foreigners, and the wars of the Irish among themselves. The text has been printed from a MS. preserved in the library of Trinity College, Dublin, written partly in Latin, partly in Irish.

47. The Chronicle of Pierre de Langtoft, in French Verse, from the earliest Period to the Death of Edward I. Vols. I. and II. *Edited by* Thomas Wright, Esq., M.A. 1866–1868.

It is probable that Pierre de Langtoft was a canon of Bridlington, in Yorkshire, and lived in the reign of Edward I., and during a portion of the reign of Edward II. This chronicle is divided into three parts; in the first, is an abridgment of Geoffrey of Monmouth's "Historia Britonum;" in the second, a history of the Anglo-Saxon and Norman kings, to the death of Henry III.; in the third, a history of the reign of Edward I. The principal object of the work was apparently to show the justice of Edward's Scottish wars. The language is singularly corrupt, and a curious specimen of the French of Yorkshire.

48. The War of the Gaedhil with the Gaill, or The Invasions of Ireland by the Danes and other Norsemen. *Edited, with a Translation, by* James Henthorn Todd, D.D., Senior Fellow of Trinity College, and Regius Professor of Hebrew in the University, Dublin. 1867.

The work in its present form, in the editor's opinion, is a comparatively modern version of an undoubtedly ancient original. That it was compiled from contemporary materials has been proved by curious incidental evidence. It is stated in the account given of the battle of Clontarf that the full tide in Dublin Bay on the day of the battle (23 April 1014) coincided with sunrise; and that the returning tide in the evening aided considerably in the defeat of the Danes. The fact has been verified by astronomical calculations, and the inference is that the author of the chronicle, if not an eye-witness, must have derived his information from eye-witnesses. The contents of the work are sufficiently described in its title. The story is told after the manner of the Scandinavian Sagas, with poems and fragments of poems introduced into the prose narrative.

49. Gesta Regis Henrici Secundi Benedicti Abbatis. Chronicle of the Reigns of Henry II. and Richard I., 1169–1192, known under the name of Benedict of Peterborough. Vols. I. and II. *Edited by* William Stubbs, M.A., Regius Professor of Modern History, Oxford, and Lambeth Librarian. 1867.

This chronicle of the reigns of Henry II. and Richard I., known commonly under the name of Benedict of Peterborough, is one of the best existing specimens of a class of historical compositions of the first importance to the student.

50. Munimenta Academica, or, Documents illustrative of Academical Life and Studies at Oxford (in Two Parts). *Edited by* the Rev. Henry Anstey, M.A., Vicar of St. Wendron, Cornwall, and lately Vice-Principal of St. Mary Hall, Oxford. 1868.

This work will supply materials for a History of Academical Life and Studies in the University of Oxford during the 13th, 14th, and 15th centuries.

51. Chronica Magistri Rogeri de Houedene. Vols. I., II., III., and IV. *Edited by* William Stubbs, M.A., Regius Professor of Modern History, and Fellow of Oriel College, Oxford. 1868–1871.

This work has long been justly celebrated, but not thoroughly understood until Mr. Stubbs' edition. The earlier portion, extending from 732 to 1148, appears to be a copy of a compilation made in Northumbria about 1161, to which Hoveden added little. From 1148 to 1169—a very valuable portion of this work—the matter is derived from another source, to which Hoveden appears to have supplied little, and not always judiciously. From 1170 to 1192 is the portion which corresponds with the Chronicle known under the name of Benedict of Peterborough (*see* No. 49); but it is not a copy, being sometimes an abridgment, at others a paraphrase; occasionally the two works entirely agree; showing that both writers had access to the same materials, but dealt with them differently. From 1192 to 1201 may be said to be wholly Hoveden's work; it is extremely valuable, and an authority of the first importance.

52. Willelmi Malmesbiriensis Monachi de Gestis Pontificum Anglorum Libri Quinque. *Edited, from William of Malmesbury's Autograph MS., by* N. E. S. A. Hamilton, Esq., of the Department of Manuscripts, British Museum. 1870.

William of Malmesbury's "Gesta Pontificum" is the principal foundation of English Ecclesiastical Biography, down to the year 1122. The manuscript which has been followed in this Edition is supposed by Mr. Hamilton to be the author's autograph, containing his latest additions and amendments.

53. Historic and Municipal Documents of Ireland, from the Archives of the City of Dublin, &c. 1172–1320. *Edited by* John T. Gilbert, Esq., F.S.A., Secretary of the Public Record Office of Ireland. 1870.

A collection of original documents, elucidating mainly the history and condition of the municipal, middle, and trading classes under or in relation with the rule of England in Ireland,—a subject hitherto in almost total obscurity. Extending over the first hundred and fifty years of the Anglo-Norman settlement, the series includes charters, municipal laws and regulations, rolls of names of citizens and members of merchant-guilds, lists of commodities with their rates, correspondence, illustrations of relations between ecclesiastics and laity; together with many documents exhibiting the state of Ireland during the presence there of the Scots under Robert and Edward Bruce.

54. The Annals of Loch Cé. A Chronicle of Irish Affairs, from 1041 to 1590. Vols. I. and II. *Edited, with a Translation, by* William Maunsell Hennessy, Esq., M.R.I.A. 1871.

The original of this chronicle has passed under various names. The title of "Annals of Loch Cé" was given to it by Professor O'Curry, on the ground that it was transcribed for Brian Mac Dermot, an Irish chieftain, who resided on the island in Loch Cé, in the county of Roscommon. It adds much to the materials for the civil and ecclesiastical history of Ireland; and contains many curious references to English and foreign affairs, not noticed in any other chronicle.

55. Monumenta Juridica. The Black Book of the Admiralty, with Appendices. Vols. I., II., III., and IV. *Edited by* Sir Travers Twiss, Q.C., D.C.L. 1871–1876.

This book contains the ancient ordinances and laws relating to the navy, and was probably compiled for the use of the Lord High Admiral of England. Selden calls it the "jewel of the Admiralty Records." Prynne ascribes to the Black Book the same authority in the Admiralty as the Black and Red Rocks have in the Court of Exchequer, and most English writers on maritime law recognize its importance.

56. Memorials of the Reign of Henry VI.:—Official Correspondence of Thomas Bekynton, Secretary to Henry VI., and Bishop of Bath and Wells. *Edited, from a MS. in the Archiepiscopal Library at Lambeth, with an Appendix of Illustrative Documents, by* the Rev. George Williams, B.D., Vicar of Ringwood, late Fellow of King's College, Cambridge. Vols. I. and II. 1872.

These curious volumes are of a miscellaneous character, and were probably compiled under the immediate direction of Beckynton before he had attained to the Episcopate. They contain many of the Bishop's own letters, and several written by him in the King's name; also letters to himself while Royal Secretary, and others addressed to the King. This work elucidates some points in the history of the nation during the first half of the fifteenth century.

57. Matthæi Parisiensis, Monachi Sancti Albani, Chronica Majora. Vol. I. The Creation to A.D. 1066. Vol. II. A.D. 1067 to A.D. 1216. Vol. III. A.D. 1216 to A.D. 1239. Vol. IV. A.D. 1240 to A.D. 1247. Vol. V. A.D. 1248 to A.D. 1259. Vol. VI. Additamenta. Vol. VII. Index. *Edited by* Henry Richards Luard, D.D., Fellow of Trinity College, Registrary of the University, and Vicar of Great St. Mary's, Cambridge. 1872–1884.

This work contains the "Chronica Majora" of Matthew Paris, one of the most valuable and frequently consulted of the ancient English Chronicles. It is published from its commencement, for the first time. The editions by Archbishop Parker, and William Wats, severally begin at the Norman Conquest.

58. Memoriale Fratris Walteri de Coventria.—The Historical Collections of Walter of Coventry. Vols. I. and II. *Edited, from the MS. in the Library of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, by* William Stubbs, M.A., Regius Professor of Modern History, and Fellow of Oriel College, Oxford. 1872–1873.

This work, now printed in full for the first time, has long been a *desideratum* by Historical Scholars. The first portion, however, is not of much importance, being only a compilation from earlier writers. The part relating to the first quarter of the thirteenth century is the most valuable and interesting.

59. The Anglo-Latin Satirical Poets and Epigrammatists of the Twelfth Century. Vols. I. and II. *Collected and edited by* Thomas Wright, Esq., M.A., Corresponding Member of the National Institute of France (Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres). 1872

The Poems contained in these volumes have long been known and appreciated as the best satires of the age in which their authors flourished, and were deservedly popular during the 13th and 14th centuries.

60. Materials for a History of the Reign of Henry VII., from original Documents preserved in the Public Record Office. Vols. I. and II. *Edited by* the Rev. William Campbell, M.A., one of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools. 1873–1877.

These volumes are valuable as illustrating the acts and proceedings of Henry VII. on ascending the throne, and shadow out the policy he afterwards adopted.

61. Historical Papers and Letters from the Northern Registers. *Edited by* James Raine, M.A., Canon of York, and Secretary of the Surtees Society. 1873.

The documents in this volume illustrate, for the most part, the general history of the north of England, particularly in its relation to Scotland.

62. Registrum Palatinum Dunelmense. The Register of Richard de Kellawe, Lord Palatine and Bishop of Durham; 1311–1316. Vols. I., II., III., and IV. *Edited by* Sir Thomas Duffus Hardy, D.C.L., Deputy Keeper of the Public Records. 1873–1878.

Bishop Kellawe's Register contains the proceedings of his prelacy, both lay and ecclesiastical, and is the earliest Register of the Palatinate of Durham.

63. Memorials of Saint Dunstan, Archbishop of Canterbury. *Edited, from various MSS., by* William Stubbs, M.A., Regius Professor of Modern History, and Fellow of Oriel College, Oxford. 1874.

This volume contains several lives of Archbishop Dunstan, one of the most celebrated Primates of Canterbury. They open various points of Historical and Literary interest, without which our knowledge of the period would be more incomplete than it is at present.

64. Chronicon Angliæ, ab Anno Domini 1328 usque ad Annum 1388, Auctore Monacho quodam Sancti Albani. *Edited by* Edward Maunde Thompson, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, and Assistant-Keeper of the Manuscripts in the British Museum. 1874.

This chronicle gives a circumstantial history of the close of the reign of Edward III. which has hitherto been considered lost.

65. Thómas Saga Erkibyskups. A Life of Archbishop Thomas Becket, in Icelandic. Vols. I. and II. *Edited, with English Translation, Notes, and Glossary by* M. Eiríkr Magnússon, M.A., Sub-Librarian of the University Library, Cambridge. 1875–1884.

This work is derived from the Life of Becket written by Benedict of Peterborough, and apparently supplies the missing portions in Benedict's biography.

66. Radulphi de Coggeshall Chronicon Anglicanum. *Edited by* the Rev. Joseph Stevenson, M.A. 1875.

This volume contains the "Chronicon Anglicanum," by Ralph of Coggleshall, the "Libellus de Expugnatione Terræ Sanctæ per Saladinum," usually ascribed to the same author, and other pieces of an interesting character.

67. Materials for the History of Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury. Vols. I., II., III., IV., V., and VI. *Edited by* the Rev. James Craigie Robertson, M.A., Canon of Canterbury. 1875–1883. Vol. VII. *Edited by* Joseph Brigstocke Sheppard, Esq., LL.D. 1885.

This publication comprises all contemporary materials for the history of Archbishop Thomas Becket. The first volume contains the life of that celebrated man, and the miracles after his death, by William, a monk of Canterbury. The second, the life by Benedict of Peterborough; John of Salisbury; Alan of Tewkesbury; and Edward Grim. The third, the life by William Fitzstephen; and Herbert of Bosham. The fourth, anonymous lives, Quadrilogus, &c. The fifth, sixth, and seventh, the Epistles, and known letters.

68. Radulfi de Diceto Decani Lundoniensis Opera Historica. The Historical Works of Master Ralph de Diceto, Dean of London. Vols. I. and II. *Edited, from the Original Manuscripts, by* William Stubbs, M.A., Regius Professor of Modern History, and Fellow of Oriel College, Oxford. 1876.

The Historical Works of Ralph de Diceto are some of the most valuable materials for British History. The Abbreviationes Chronicorum extend from the Creation to 1147, and the Ymagines Historiarum to 1201.

69. Roll of the Proceedings of the King's Council in Ireland, for a Portion of the 16th Year of the Reign of Richard II. 1392–93. *Edited by* the Rev. James Graves, A.B. 1877.

This Roll throws considerable light on the History of Ireland at a period little known. It seems the only document of the kind extant.

70. Henrici de Bracton de Legibus et Consuetudinibus Angliæ Libri Quinque in Varios Tractatus Distincti. Ad Diversorum et Vetustissimorum Codicum Collationem Typis Vulgati. Vols. I., II., III., IV., V., and VI. *Edited by* Sir Travers Twiss, Q.C., D.C.L. 1878–1883.

This is a new edition of Bracton's celebrated work, collated with MSS. in the British Museum; the Libraries of Lincoln's Inn, Middle Temple, and Gray's Inn; Bodelian Library, Oxford; the Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris; &c.

71. The Historians of the Church of York, and its Archbishops. Vols. I. and II. *Edited by* James Raine, M.A., Canon of York, and Secretary of the Surtees Society. 1879–1886.

This will form a complete "Corpus Historicum Eboracense," a work very much needed, and of great value to the Historical Inquirer.

72. Registrum Malmesburiense. The Register of Malmesbury Abbey; Preserved in the Public Record Office. Vols. I. and II. *Edited by* J. S. Brewer, M.A., Preacher at the Rolls, and Rector of Toppesfield; and Charles Trice Martin, Esq., B.A. 1879, 1880.

This work illustrates many curious points of history, the growth of society, the distribution of land, the relations of landlord and tenant, national customs, &c.

73. Historical Works of Gervase of Canterbury. Vols. I. and II. The Chronicle of the Reigns of Stephen, Henry II., and Richard I., by Gervase, the Monk of Canterbury. *Edited by* William Stubbs, D.D.; Canon Residentiary of St. Paul's, London; Regius Professor of Modern History and Fellow of Oriel College, Oxford; &c. 1879, 1880.

The Historical Works of Gervase of Canterbury are of great importance as regards the questions of Church and State, during the period in which he wrote. This work was printed by Twysden, in the "Historiæ Anglicanæ Scriptores X.," more than two centuries ago. The present edition has received critical examination and illustration.

74. Henrici Archidiaconi Huntendunensis Historia Anglorum. The History of the English, by Henry, Archdeacon of Huntingdon, from A.D. 55 to A.D. 1154, in Eight Books. *Edited by* Thomas Arnold, Esq., M.A., of University College, Oxford. 1879.

Henry of Huntingdon's work was first printed by Sir Henry Savile, in 1596, in his "Scriptores post Bedam," and reprinted at Frankfort in 1601. Both editions are very rare and inaccurate. The first five books of the History were published in 1848 in the "Monumenta Historica Britannica," which is out of print The present volume contains the whole of the manuscript of Huntingdon's History in eight books, collated with a manuscript lately discovered at Paris.

75. The Historical Works of Symeon of Durham. Vols. I. and II. *Edited by* Thomas Arnold, Esq., M.A., of University College, Oxford. 1882–1885.

The first volume of this edition of the Historical Works of Symeon of Durham, contains the "Historia Dunelmensis Ecclesiæ," and other Works. The second volume contains the "Historia Regum," &c.

76. Chronicles of the Reigns of Edward I. and Edward II. Vols. I. and II. *Edited by* William Stubbs, D.D., Canon Residentiary of St. Paul's, London; Regius Professor of Modern History, and Fellow of Oriel College, Oxford, &c. 1882, 1883.

The first volume of these Chronicles contains the "Annales Londonienses" and the "Annales Paulini:" the second, I.—Commendatio Lamentabilis in Transitu magni Regis Edwardi. II.—Gesta Edwardi de Carnarvan Auctore Canonico Bridlingtoniensi. III.—Monachi cujusdam Malmesberiensis Vita, Edwardi II. IV.—Vita et Mors Edwardi II. Conscripta a Thoma de la Moore.

77. Registrum Epistolarum Fratris Johannis Peckham, Archiepiscopi Cantuariensis. Vols. I., II., and III. *Edited by* Charles Trice Martin, Esq., B.A., F.S.A., 1882–1886.

These Letters are of great value for illustrating English Ecclesiastical History.

78. Register of S. Osmund. *Edited by* the Rev. W. H. Rich Jones, M.A., F.S.A., Canon of Salisbury, Vicar of Bradford-on-Avon. Vols. I. and II. 1883, 1884.

This Register, of which a complete copy is here printed for the first time, is among the most ancient, and certainly the most treasured, of the muniments of the Bishops of Salisbury. It derives its name from containing the statutes, rules, and orders made or compiled by S. Osmund, to be observed in the Cathedral and diocese of Salisbury. The first 19 folios contain the "Consuetudinary," the exposition, as regards ritual, of the "Use of Sarum."

79. Chartulary of the Ancient Benedictine Abbey of Ramsey, from the MS. in the Public Record Office. Vols. I. and II. 1884, 1886. *Edited by* William Henry Hart, Esq., F.S.A., and the Rev. Ponsonby Annesley Lyons.

This Chartulary of the Ancient Benedictine Monastery of Ramsey, Huntingdonshire, came to the Crown on the Dissolution of Monasteries, was afterwards preserved in the Stone Tower, Westminster Hall, and thence transferred to the Public Record Office.

80. Chartularies of St. Mary's Abbey, Dublin, &c., preserved in the Bodleian Library and British Museum. *Edited by* John Thomas Gilbert, Esq., F.S.A., M.R.I.A. Vols. I. & II. 1884 and 1885.

These Chartularies, published for the first time, are the only documents of that description known to exist of the ancient establishments of the Cistercian Order in Ireland; two being of St. Mary's Abbey, Dublin, and one of the House at Dunbrody, Wexford. One Chartulary is in the Bodleian Library, Oxford, together with that of Dunbrody; the second is in the British Museum.

81. Eadmeri Historia Novorum in Anglia, et opuscula duo de Vita Sancti Anselmi et quibusdam Miraculis ejus. 1884. *Edited by* the Rev. Martin Rule, M.A.

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